

Ledger bows out with bang



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HALIFAX • WEEKEND, JULY 18-20, 2008

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Missing teens found safe and sound

SEARCH The two 14-year-old boys were reported missing on Wednesday night were found early yesterday morning. A parent of one of the boys called police at 9:45 p.m. Wednesday night. His son and the boy's friend went out on the Whopper Dropper trail near Chain Lake Drive in Halifax and didn't return by 6 p.m. Search and Rescue was called in to scour the area, and one of the volunteers happened to see two kids riding their bikes on Highway 102 near Brookfield. Police said the boys were found safe and sound.

METRO HALIFAX

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Nova Scotians spending less on lotteries

Apartment finder p. 28-29

Find the right place to live

News page 6



Getting ready for Africville



Clem Arseneault yesterday holds up some of the garbage strewn about by raccoons which pull trash out from bins outside Arseneault's condo block. The raccoon population in HRM is at a very high level, according to the Department of Natural Resources.

Raccoon numbers going through roof

Growth in population usually followed by distemper, expert says

JENNIFER TAPLIN
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The raccoon population in HRM is exploding.

"And when their populations are really high, they usually get hit with distemper," said Jenny Costello, a wildlife technician with Natural Resources.

"I've worked through two distemper outbreaks already (in 20 years) and I know I'm heading for a third."

Distemper is a neurological disease that can be passed from raccoons to cats and dogs, and it

can be fatal. A raccoon with distemper isn't violent, rather it can exhibit strange behaviour like seizures or it may not move even when provoked.

Clem Arseneault has had more than a few run-ins with raccoons.

Once, a couple years ago, he thought he might be dealing with a rabid raccoon in Lower Sackville. Two raccoons — one which had a swollen tongue and was drooling — trotted up the street on Halloween.

"I called the RCMP, animal control and they said I'm to rent a trap, trap it, and dispose of it myself," he said. "But I wasn't al-

what to do

- There are raccoon-proof garbage cans available.
- To make your garbage cans raccoon-proof, secure garbage cans to a deck or tree so they can't be tipped over, and stretch a bungee cord over top of the lid.
- Nuisance wildlife officers can be hired to trap and remove raccoons.

lowed to kill it."

Raccoons don't have rabies, assured Costello. "Rabies in land mammals is virtually non-existent in the province."

And raccoons snarling and acting aggressive is just their natural behaviour, Costello added.

The day after the Halloween incident, a raccoon attacked Arseneault's girlfriend who was taking the garbage out. A neighbour sprung into action and killed it with a stick.

Raccoons are actually a protected species, and the only people who are allowed to kill them are licensed trappers, Costello said.

"You don't want people taking the law into their own hands and put out antifreeze," Costello said. "There are humane ways to put animals down."

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Springfield Lake beach in Lower Sackville reopened yesterday. Halifax has had a series of beaches closed due to high bacteria counts, but as of yesterday, the only one closed was Birch Cove beach on Dartmouth's Lake Banook. **METRO HALIFAX**

Local

Kids tune in when TV on

Leaving the TV on in the background could hurt your child's development. A University of Massachusetts study found when Jeopardy! was on, kids aged one to three spent half as much time playing with a toy, and three-quarters as much time playing, as they did when the TV was off. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Review of gas-price regulation coming

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Sometime in the next 10 days, the province will put out a request for proposals to review its gas-regulation program.

Dale Madill, policy analyst with Service Nova Scotia, said yesterday the first six-month review of gas regulation in 2006 occurred mostly during the winter months, which prevented an accurate read of how the policy worked.

Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil yesterday called on the government again to get rid of gas-price regulation, saying that while the rest of the country enjoyed a four to five cent decrease in gas

prices last week, Nova Scotians missed out because of regulation.

Madill said it's difficult to say whether regulation reduces costs for the consumer. "There's no way to compare it," he said.

But cheaper gas wasn't the main goal of regulation, anyway. "We were trying to provide stability for consumers," he said.

A senior associate for a Calgary-based petroleum marketing consultant group, said there's not much in gas regulation for the consumer.

"There's no data to support that regulation over the long term in all the markets we looked at has lowered prices to consumers," said Catherine Hay of MJ Ervin and Associates.

Barrington St. getting new lights

TRAFFIC Barrington Street will get new traffic lights between the bridges to protect pedestrians.

The lights will go up at the corner of Barrington and Richmond — a stretch of road typically sped through by vehicles. The problem is outbound buses drop people off on the harbour side, leaving them to cross the street to get to their homes or work.

North-end community activist Paul Talbot says he's been fighting for a crosswalk at Barrington and Richmond for years.

"As soon as you step off that curb, you're in the middle of traffic," Talbot said.

Halifax North End Coun. Patrick Murphy said a new crosswalk light has been approved and he hopes it'll be in place by September.

PAUL MCLEOD/METROHALIFAX

Crime rates still dropping

But violent-crime rates in the province higher than other parts of Canada



Justice Minister Cecil Clarke says he's pleased that the overall and violent crime rates are down in the province.

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Crime rates in the province are down, but not compared to the rest of the country.

According to a Statistics Canada report released yesterday, overall crime in Canada was down seven per cent in 2007 compared with 2006, and down eight per cent in Nova Scotia.

But the rate of violent crime in the province continues to beat out several others, including Quebec, Ontario and the rest of the Atlantic Provinces.

The report says the highest overall and violent-crime rates in Canada occurred in the western metropolitan areas — with the exception of Saint John, N.B., Thunder Bay and Halifax, which came in fifth, sixth and seventh place respectively in a group of 18 mid-sized cities.

Justice Minister Cecil Clarke said the decrease in overall crime in the province speaks to the 80 police officers added to the streets in 2007.

"It's very encouraging to see that for the third consecutive year, crime rates are down in Nova Scotia,"

StatsCan numbers

- The highest overall crime rates occurred in the western metropolitan centres of Regina, Saskatoon, Abbotsford, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Victoria and Vancouver. Toronto reported the second lowest overall crime rate among all 27 metropolitan areas.

he said.

Violent crime in Nova Scotia has decreased six per cent and property crime was down by 12 per cent.

Robberies were down 25 per cent and motor vehicle thefts down 23 per cent. These numbers were similar in metro.

Const. Jeff Carr with the Halifax Regional Police said the department is most pleased with the reduction of violent crime in the city.

Although youth crime in the province is down four per cent, NDP MLA Graham Steele said the government is failing to address youth crime and the only area it's actually dropped is in common assaults.

Serious assaults by youth in Nova Scotia are up 31 per cent and sexual assaults up 21 per cent, he said.

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Bluenosers cash out of lotteries

Smoking ban, retailers scandal blamed by gaming corp. as reasons for decrease

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Nova Scotians spent less money on VLTs and lottery tickets over the past year, new data shows.

The government took in \$348 million from gaming activity over the last fiscal year. That's a nearly six per cent drop from the year before, mostly due to less money being spent on lottery tickets and VLTs.

The Nova Scotia Gaming Corp. attributes the drops to the provincial smoking ban and the scandal involving retailers winning more lotteries than they should. "We're still feeling the effects of the 100 per cent smoking ban," said Gaming Corp. spokeswoman Laura Kiley.

"That came in in late 2006, so it obviously continued to have a ripple effect into 2007."

Profits from lottery tickets had been rising every year since 2004 but took a nosedive this year, falling by about five per cent.

Lottery winnings became a big issue last year after the CBC's Fifth Estate revealed retailers were winning several times more than they should have been statistically. After a local investigation, it was revealed Nova Scotia retailers won at 10 times the rate of the public. "On the ticket-lottery line, revenue is down by about \$11.7 million ... Customer confidence, we believe, has played a role," said Kiley. "But we've made some adjustments towards restoring that confidence."

Don't show me the money

Money spent by gamers, with difference from last fiscal year

• VLTs \$673 million (-6.2%)	• Total income \$1.46 billion (-4.1%)
• Casinos \$489 million (0)	• Total prizes \$1.11 billion (-3.6%)
• Lottery tickets \$203 million (-5.5%)	• Net revenue \$348 million (-5.8%)
• Bingo \$60 million (-10.2%)	
• Charitable lotteries \$32 million (+0.2%)	

NOVA SCOTIA GAMING CORP.



Amber Rehill of the Holy Smokes shop on Young Street holds out a handful of lottery tickets. Nova Scotians are buying less of them these days after scandals involving security last year.

NDP leader wants oil reserve set up for the East Coast

HEATING NDP Leader Darrell Dexter has asked Ottawa to set up a heating-oil reserve to ensure Eastern Canada can survive an oil shortage.

In a news release, Dexter said the U.S. set up a similar reserve during the 1970s oil crisis, and a northeastern reserve in 2000. The move is meant to guarantee an oil supply in case of a shortage, and to stabilize prices.

He said the U.S. maintains a 10-day oil supply, and European countries keep 30 days' worth of oil on hand.

Dexter has written to Prime Minister Stephen Harper about the issue.

METRO HALIFAX

Bullet hole nets charges for man

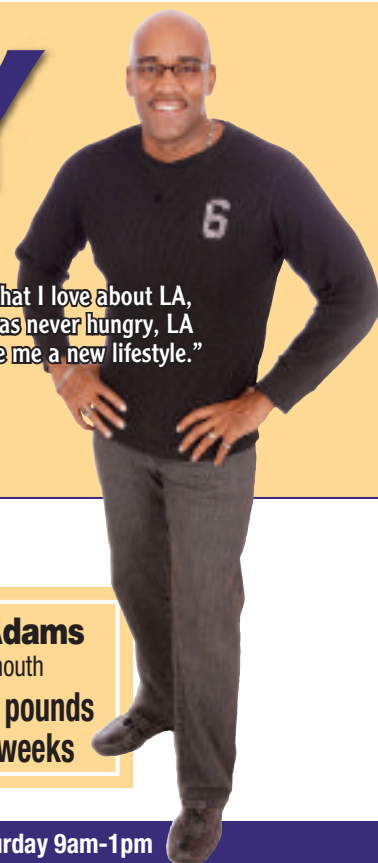
CRIME Halifax Regional Police have charged a man with firearms-related offences after a Ridge Valley Road woman found a bullet hole in her bedroom wall. No one was hurt. Fabien Alexander Williams, 33, was also charged with possession of marijuana, since police allege they found the drug in his apartment when investigating the bullet hole.

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CTV meteorologist Cindy Day was the fastest ice-cream scooper at a charity scoop-off for the Children's Wish Foundation Wednesday. Day scooped the tasty treat in 21.97 seconds, while Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil came in second at 22.56 seconds. Immigration Minister Len Goucher came in a slow ninth place. **METRO HALIFAX**



People line up for a test ride on a catamaran from Bedford to downtown Oct. 29, 2005, when the fast-ferry project was first proposed.

City opens bidding on fast ferry project

Halifax 'testing the water' on Bedford service: Mayor

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Fast ferries are a step closer to setting sail in Halifax Harbour.

The city has issued a tender for expressions of interest to Canadian and international firms to design, build and deliver at least two Bedford fast ferries.

The wheelchair accessible vessels would carry up to 250 passengers and transport up to a dozen bicycles for the 12-kilometre run between Mill Cove and downtown Halifax.

"We're just testing the water to see who might be out there to be able to

"(The project) might be very sexy, but for all practical intents and purposes we don't have the data to support (it)."

Coun. Sheila Fougere

respond," said Mayor Peter Kelly.

Kelly says the estimated \$30-million project wouldn't solely benefit residents of his constituency in Bedford, adding that the goal is to bring fast ferry service to Purcells Cove, Eastern Passage, Woodside, Dartmouth, Shannon Park and Rockingham.

"It has to start somewhere," he said.

Quinpool-Connaught Coun. Sheila Fougere isn't on board. She says there

isn't a good business plan for a 250-passenger ferry travelling at 50 km/h.

A two-year-old study commissioned by the city shows that ferries should carry 350 passengers and travel 65 km/h to cover costs.

Plus fuel prices, which were factored into the report, have since gone up 25 per cent.

"(The project) might be very sexy, but for all practical intents and purposes we don't have the data to support (it)" said Fougere

who's running for mayor.

"We have to be chasing after what's a wonderful idea, but in a format that's supportable financially by the taxpayers of the municipality."

City transportation manager David McCusker says the ferries would be economically viable.

"Reducing the size is to lessen our risk on how big the market potential will be," McCusker said.

"Our preference is to start at a smaller scale and then scale up if we need to."

McCusker said the city intends to have the service running by 2010.

He said \$14-million of federal and municipal cash has already been set aside.

Cash, coke and 'flop' testimony

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It's never a good idea to fly with \$32,000 cash in your suitcase.

It's an even worse idea if there are traces of cocaine on the handle.

And if you're claiming to be carrying massive amounts of cash because you're heading to a big B.C. poker tournament, you might want to make sure there's actually a major tournament going on.

These were the gaping holes in Kevin Patrick Hobbs' story, and they got the Halifax man convicted on charges of possessing proceeds-of-crime cash and trying to transport it.

In a written decision released yesterday, Nova Scotia Supreme Court Justice Felix Caccione described Hobbs' testimony as "a flop."

"On the whole, Hobbs' evidence was not truthful or convincing. It is not believed or accepted," Caccione wrote.

Hobbs' trial was held in May and June in Halifax.

Police stopped Hobbs as

Not adding up

Caccione pointed out Hobbs was paying \$2,000 a month rent, leased a \$1,000 a month Cadillac and paid \$1,300 in cash for a dog — all without a visible source of income except his claim that he was a poker player.

he embarked on a less than 24-hour trip to Vancouver April 8, 2005, a trip he'd booked the day before. They found no drugs in the bag, but traces of cocaine on the handle and Hobbs' clothing, along with the heat-sealed plastic bags his cash was packed in.

When they raided his home at Chelton Woods Lane, they found a marijuana grow operation, but Hobbs claimed he no longer lived there.

Hobbs claimed he was flying at the last minute to a poker tournament at the River Rock Casino, and that's why he had all the money on him. The casino said it only had minor tournaments during that month, and they didn't have the large buy-ins Hobbs claimed.

Porta-potty fires cause damage to buildings

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Someone made a stinky situation even worse early yesterday morning.

Sometime before 5:30 a.m. two porta potties at two different construction sites were set ablaze; one on Gladstone Street and one on Russell Street.

The condo complex at 5541 Russell St. actually sustained some damage on the outside of the building.

The portable toilet was set on fire inside one of the main floor suites and a construction worker at the site yesterday said the suite was completely demolished.

Smoke damage could be seen all the way up the side of the building.

Halifax Regional Police and fire investigators are considering both incidents cases of arson.

"It would be extremely strange for a portable toilet to ignite on its own; that's a certainty," said Dave Meldrum, spokesman for Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency Services.

Another incident of arson took place sometime between midnight and 6:30



The side of a new condo building at 5541 Russell St. shows signs of smoke damage after a porta potty inside the building was set ablaze early yesterday.

a.m. on Jarvis Lane.

Someone had removed the gas cap from a van, stuffed the nozzle with a rag and lit it on fire, resulting in fire damage to the van.

Police don't know whether all three incidents were related or not.

Two youths were seen in the area of the Gladstone Street incident around the time it occurred but police don't have an accurate description of the suspects.

Housing market to continue climb: Experts

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House prices are heading up in the HRM.

Royal LePage is reporting a strong demand across Atlantic Canada and predict price increases to the end of the year.

The market forecast shows the average house

price in the HRM will increase by four-and-a-half per cent to an average price of \$226,000.

But the survey also shows sales are expected to go down by nine per cent to 6,608 units sold in 2008.

But Valerie Folk, area manager of Royal LePage in Halifax, is happy with the direction the real es-

tate market is headed.

"It is encouraging to see some people migrating back home from the western provinces. The return of skilled workers will help drive much-needed new developments, and better position the housing market for the remainder of the year," Folk said.

"Halifax has strong employment rates and high

consumer confidence — the year ahead looks quite healthy."

In a recent survey, two-storey homes showed the biggest price jump of 19.7 per cent with an average price of \$271,667.

Detached bungalows increased a bit to 1.2 per cent, and condo prices rose 6.6 per cent for an average price of \$154,500.

Farm biz program called beneficial

A new business risk management program is good news for Nova Scotia farmers, says Agriculture Minister Brooke Taylor. The Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley MLA and his provincial/territorial counterparts signed a \$1.3 billion agreement with the federal government. **METRO HALIFAX**

local 5

Blue-brown sludge harmless: School board

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School board officials say a vile-looking puddle of ooze coming from Citadel High is harmless.

The blue and brown sludge, which flows from the edge of the school property onto the sidewalk on Ahern Avenue, is ground water containing Manganese, a naturally-occurring metal commonly

found in shale. After a rain-storm, the thick blue liquid covers several metres of the sidewalk.

"It's unpleasant and it's not a great smell, but our understanding is there's no health risk to it," Halifax regional school board

spokesman Doug Hadley said yesterday.

Christopher Moir, the provincial Transportation Department's manager of environmental services, hasn't seen it, but says it's

not surprising.

He says underground springs in the area are known to sometimes cause swampy spots, which can contain Manganese and iron.

"The (health) issue is

drinking (it) and that's not a problem there because no one is drinking it," Moir said.

The school board plans to fix the puddling before students return to school in September.

Wind farm receives eco approval

POWER A wind farm atop Nuttby Mountain has cleared another hurdle. Environment Minister Mark Parent has approved the environmental assessment with conditions for the wind farm project. "The project is a go-ahead. This is one of the final steps," said Clair Peers, president of Cobequid Wind Power. "Everything else is on track." Atlantic Wind Power is the project manager and Cobequid Wind Power is involved in the development that is owned by EarthFirst Canada Inc. The project will see 18 wind turbine generators installed near the top of Nuttby Mountain generating 45 megawatts of energy annually or enough to power about 15,000 homes. **METRO HALIFAX**

Road upgrade

Makeover planned for King Street

CAPE BRETON A \$2 million upgrade to King Street in North Sydney has business operators nervous. The project is expected to begin as soon as the contractor, Municipal Ready-Mix, can get the equipment on site. During a meeting at the Clansman in North Sydney, Wayne MacDonald, manager of engineering services with the Cape Breton Regional Municipality assured the business owners that the public would have uninterrupted access to their businesses. **METRO HALIFAX**

Golf

Course expansion set to begin

PROJECT Plans to expand a Brule Point golf course are moving forward with ground breaking underway. Derek Forsyth, owner of Ocean Links Development and Ocean Links Golf Course, said he is pleased to see the first of the project's three construction phases begin. The project is expected to cost more than \$50 million. **METRO HALIFAX**



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A Corporate Research Associates poll suggests 95 per cent of Nova Scotians favour limits on clearcutting. The poll, done for the Ecology Action Centre, found 68 per cent supported restricting it to certain forest types while 27 per cent wanted a total ban. **METRO HALIFAX**

Glace Bay woman flies past her 100th birthday

Says 'positive attitude' has helped

STAYING YOUNG There's no lying about Fanny Cohen's age.

The Glace Bay woman, who turned 100 this week, says both attitude and luck have played a role in her longevity.

"I think I was lucky. I inherited the best genes from both parents," Cohen said. "Add that with my positive attitude to life, that's what does it."

The former teacher got a congratulatory note from Queen Elizabeth II at her birthday party on Wednesday.

The celebration was organized by Cohen's niece Leone Bushkin and nephew Arthur Bland, both of New York, and included an emotional video presentation of various aspects of Cohen's life.

"The great story of her life is her teaching," Bushkin said.

"She taught for 46 years, thousands of children.

"The letters she has received this week from students she taught 30, 40 years ago in the primary ...

"The great story of her life is her teaching. She taught for 46 years, thousands of children."

Leone Bushkin, whose aunt, Fanny Cohen, recently celebrated her 100th birthday

it is amazing.

"Flowers have arrived from British Columbia — you don't get all this unless you have given."

Cohen was born and raised in Glace Bay and is the last surviving member of the family of six headed by the late Esther and Harry Cohen.

Cohen enjoys crossword and decoding puzzles and is an avid reader, enjoying mysteries.

She was excited about receiving the message from the queen.

"I knew she wouldn't leave me out."

METRO HALIFAX

Enjoying the weather Hot fun in the summertime



Three-year-old Donovan Skinner, Dejuan Skinner, 6, and their dad Blair Skinner, along with friend Sebastien Rain-Ruth, 5, had some fun in the sun yesterday at the George Dixon Centre park.



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Africville celebration now a week-long fest

Historic community marks its 25th reunion

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Tents are already up in Seaview Park where the homes of Africville once stood.

This year's Africville Reunion is special: normally it's a weekend event, but organizers are making it a week-long festival from now on.

Irvine Carvery, with the Africville Genealogy Society, said this year is their 25th anniversary.

"Time really does fly, but it's something that everybody looks forward to every year."

The annual gathering is more than a remembrance of a community which stood for about 150 years. It was bulldozed, starting in the 1960s, to build a bridge.

"The importance of (the reunion) is monumental," Carvery said. "This gives us an opportunity as a society to present our culture and traditions to young people."

He expects an average of 1,000 people to walk

through the park in the next week.

"We have people coming home from all across Canada, the United States and from all over Nova Scotia," he said. "It's going to be a very exciting week."

Flea markets, musical entertainment and picnics are a few of the events planned for the week.

"What's not listed in our events is we are expecting the Paramount Chief from Ghana, Africa to arrive," Carvery said. "That would be the equivalent to being the king."

The dignitary is expected to perform a traditional African libation ceremony on Monday night.

The Freedom Schooner Amistad will be making another visit at this year's reunion and Joe Sealy's concert at the Neptune Theatre on Thursday is excitedly anticipated.

"Joe is a descendant of Africville. When he father passed, he wrote a piece called the Africville Suite," Carvery said. "It's music reflecting the culture and people of Africville."

Africville Reunion

- **July 19:** Flea market (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.). Entertainment (Tony Smith, 9 p.m.).
- **July 20:** Parade of choirs (2 p.m.).
- **July 21:** Youth cultural camp (1 p.m.). Meet and greet (6 p.m.). Entertainment (Tro-Biz, Jordan Croucher, Kaleb Simmonds).
- **July 22:** Youth cultural camp (1 p.m.). Youth entertainment (Tro-Biz, Jordan Croucher, Kaleb Simmonds).
- **July 23:** Youth cultural camp (1 p.m.). Entertainment (Muzzy Marshall and Coleman Howe).
- **July 24:** Youth cultural camp (1 p.m.); Amistad Sankofa program. Entertainment (Joe Sealy at Neptune).
- **July 25:** Youth cultural camp (1 p.m.). Gala dinner and dance (Westin Hotel with entertainment by Asia and New Groove and The Raindrops).
- **July 26:** Kid's picnic (noon). Youth sail on Amistad (Maritime Museum of the Atlantic). Entertainment (Reunion of Confusion, 9 p.m.).
- **July 27:** Church service (2:30 p.m.). Closing (9 p.m.).

Researchers make fertility breakthrough

Montreal researchers have discovered the gene that controls ovulation, opening the door to potential new contraceptives and infertility treatments. "It's another target for contraception clearly," said Dr. Bruce Murphy, a co-author of the paper, which appears this week in the journal *Genes and Development*. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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Canada



McCartney to separatists: Let it be

Former Beatle Paul McCartney, preparing for a massive concert in Quebec City on Sunday, finds himself in the eye of a storm as Quebec nationalists are in full froth over what they term a British cultural invasion. In an interview with Radio-Canada yesterday, McCartney played down complaints that his visit compounds the "Canadianization" of Quebec City's 400th anniversary. "I think it's time to, you know, smoke the pipe of peace and just put away the hatchets," the rocker said. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Canadian draws controversy

Mixed response to artist's New Yorker cover

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada



Public outcries, condemnations by politicians, heated dialogue on 24-hour news channels — it's a perfect day's handiwork for a Canadian editorial cartoonist.

That's the response to the illustration on the cover of the July 21st edition of the *New Yorker* by Connecticut-based Canadian ex-pat Barry Blitt that depicts U.S. presumptive presidential nominee Barack Obama and his wife Michelle as Islamic extremist terrorists fist bumping in the Oval Office. Behind them on the wall sits a portrait of Osama bin Laden as the American flag burns in the fireplace under it.

While the magazine calls the cartoon — which has

galvanized opinions and sparked worldwide debate — satire, others including spokespeople for both Obama's and U.S. Senator John McCain's presidential campaigns deride it as "tasteless and offensive."

Blitt, who refused interviews Wednesday, released an earlier statement to the *Huffington Post* saying: "I think the idea that the Obamas are branded as unpatriotic (let alone as terrorists) in certain sectors is preposterous. It seemed to me that depicting the concept would show it as the fear-mongering ridiculousness that it is."

Blitt is no stranger to controversy. In 2004, he was named in a lawsuit ex-media baron Conrad Black filed against Toronto Life

for depicting the ex-media baron jubilantly arriving in hell.

But the contentious discussion the cover has generated is just indicative of a job well done, says Toronto Star editorial cartoonist Patrick Corrigan, who lauds the *New Yorker* cover.

"It's an excellent cartoon. It's hard-hitting and it does everything it's supposed to do," says Corrigan. "But in this case, the target was the right-wing media like FoxNews that have described Obama in this way. That isn't made clear here. The audience the *New Yorker* is speaking to, the swanky Manhattan crowd, they'll get it. But a casual reader who isn't interested in politics will take this literally."



This *New Yorker* cover by artist Barry Blitt, shows Barack Obama dressed as a Muslim and his wife Michelle as a terrorist.

News in brief

LABOUR Workers will have more freedom to take their skills to different provinces under a new pact reached by the premiers that ensures credentials in virtually all fields should be recognized in every province and territory by next April.

MISCONDUCT Nine B.C. physicians were disciplined for sexual misconduct involving patients in 2007, according to the B.C. College of Physicians and Surgeons annual report. In one case, a Maple Ridge physician asked his patient on a date while giving her a vaginal exam.

TASER The RCMP dismissed a report yesterday that it may have compromised investigations into the death of Robert Dziekanski during a stun gun incident at Vancouver's airport in October, CBC News reported. The head of the RCMP privately contacted the officers involved, a move that may have conflicted with the investigations into the death. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's lawyers cross-examined a U.S. businessman yesterday whose damaging portrait of a politician with his hand out for cash stands at the centre of a corruption case. Olmert has said he will step down if indicted. **REUTERS**

World

"When it came up we took advantage."

Capt. Benjamin Mar, a Mexican navy spokesman, speaking about busting a drug smuggling submarine.

sub drug bust

Mexican troops seized a small submarine smuggling drugs in the Pacific Ocean, their military said. The green-colored submarine, carrying what was believed to be cocaine, was about 32 feet long.

Gitmo trial set to begin

U.S. judge rejects request to delay war crimes tribunals

The first Guantanamo Bay war crimes trial, of Osama bin Laden's former driver, can start next week, a federal judge ruled yesterday, refusing to intervene in the military process backed by U.S. President George W. Bush and Congress.

U.S. District Judge James Robertson rejected a request from attorneys for Salim Hamdan, who drove for the al Qaeda leader in

war trials

The Guantanamo trials are the first U.S. war crimes tribunals since World War Two. They were set up to try non-American captives whom the Bush administration considers "enemy combatants" not entitled to the legal protections granted to soldiers and civilians.

Afghanistan, to stop his trial while he challenges the military tribunal system.

Robertson heard more than two hours of arguments from Hamdan's lawyers and the Justice Department over whether

the trial should be delayed. It is due to start on July 21.

Hamdan, a Yemeni, would be the first prisoner tried in the U.S. war crimes court at the Guantanamo naval base in Cuba. There are about 265 detainees at

base's prison camp, which was set up in January 2002 to hold terrorism suspects captured after the Sept. 11 attacks by al Qaeda in 2001.

Most have been held for years without being charged and many have complained of abuse.

Hamdan's attorneys said a landmark Supreme Court ruling last month made clear the detainees are entitled to fundamental constitutional rights.

REUTERS

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French air hostess to be space tourist

COMPETITION French air hostess Mathilde Epron will become one of Europe's pioneer space tourists after winning the trip in a candy bar contest.

Epron was chosen after she found a chocolate wrapper in the garbage that had the winning number in the competition to fly to the upper reaches of the Earth's atmosphere.

A spokeswoman for Nestle in France confirmed that Epron had won the prize. She will take a flight on a four-seater, fighter-sized aircraft built by Rockwell, a company that



Mathilde Epron will become one of Europe's first space tourists after she won a candy bar competition.

builds aircraft intended to provide cheap flights into space.

REUTERS

Gore challenges U.S. on climate

RENEWABLE Al Gore, the Nobel Prize-winning crusader on climate change, challenged the United States yesterday to commit to producing all U.S. electricity from renewable sources like solar and wind power in 10 years.

"Our dangerous over-reliance on carbon-based fuels is at the core of all three of these challenges — the economic, environmental and national security crises," the former Democratic vice president and presidential candidate in 2000 told a meeting in Washington.

"So today I challenge our nation to commit to producing 100 percent of our electricity from renewable energy and truly clean carbon-free sources within 10 years," he said.

REUTERS

Madrid bombing Four men cleared of charges



Media reporters surround Abdelilah Fadual El Akil, one of the four men cleared for crimes related to the 2004 Madrid train bombings, as he leaves the prison of Albolote in the southern Spanish province of Granada, yesterday. A Spanish court yesterday cleared four of the 21 people charged for crimes related to the 2004 Madrid train bombings, which killed 191 people.

PHOTO: AP/WIDEWORLD

Iran sanctions expanded

AMERICA The U.S. Senate Banking Committee overwhelmingly approved a bill yesterday that would expand trade and economic sanctions in another attempt to prod Iran to step back from suspected nuclear weapons production and alleged support for terrorist activities.

By a vote of 19-2, the committee sent to the full Senate legislation that would try to clamp down on countries suspected of helping transport sensitive technologies and goods to Iran in violation of existing U.S. rules.

The measure also encourages U.S. pension plan managers and state and local governments to divest, directly or indirectly, from Iran's energy sector.

Patterned after a new U.S. law aimed at Sudan, the legislation allows state and local governments to divest from any company that invests \$20 million or more in Iranian energy or extends \$20 million or more in credit to be used for investing there.

The bill also labels Iran's main bank as a supporter of terrorism.

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Israeli soldiers laid to rest

Thousands attended Israeli funerals yesterday for two slain soldiers returned in a prisoner swap with Hezbollah and their grief contrasted with Lebanon's joy over guerrillas freed in the deal.

Defence Minister Ehud Barak told the soldiers and civilians gathered at the graveside of Ehud Goldwasser, 31, that Israel was "heartbroken" and had "paid a heavy price" to bring home the bodies by freeing five guerrillas involved in deadly attacks.

U.S. to host Israel-Palestinian peace talks

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice plans to host peace talks in Washington with Israeli and Palestinian negotiators on July 30, Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said yesterday. Rice met a Palestinian delegation in Washington on Wednesday and offered to host the three-way meeting between herself, chief Palestinian negotiator Ahmed Qurei and his Israeli partner, Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni, Erekat said.

He vowed at a funeral held in the northern Israeli town of Nahariya that Israel would make every effort to retrieve other captive soldiers, including Gilad Shalit, who was abducted by militants from the Gaza Strip in a 2006 cross-

border raid. A funeral for Eldad Regev, a second Israeli soldier whose remains were also returned in a black coffin as part of the deal on Wednesday, was under way in the northern city of Haifa.

REUTERS

News in brief

RUSSIAN TRIAL The Russian prosecutor-general's office said yesterday it would put two Uzbeks on trial for trying to export to Iran a rare metal that can be used to build weapons of mass destruction. The two men had tried to transport to Iran more than one metric tonne of products made from tantalum, a metal sometimes used in nuclear missiles.

DARFUR CRISIS Senegal's president said yesterday U.S. President George W. Bush told African leaders at one stage the United States might send troops to Sudan's Darfur if they did not act to halt what he saw as genocide there.

REUTERS

Apple in no rush to bring iPhone to Russia, China

Unauthorised sales of unlocked iPhones in Russia and China are flourishing, but Apple Inc. seems in no hurry to make deals with operators to sell the nifty device in these huge markets officially. A million "cracked" iPhones may be in use in China. **REUTERS**

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Business

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Karachi Riot

Angry investors, upset by plunging Pakistani share prices, push a desk over at the Karachi Stock Exchange yesterday. They smashed windows and scuffles broke out during a protest to demand a temporary closure of the market.

Gasoline prices slow to reflect oil decline

It will likely be the middle of next week before gasoline retail prices begin reflecting an 11-per-cent drop in oil prices seen over the past three days, experts say.

The decline represents in dollars the biggest three-day fall since oil futures began trading 25 years ago.

But opinions are divided over whether the drop is merely temporary relief —

"A price of almost \$150 a barrel is unsustainable and the \$200 target ... will soon prove a mirage."

Clément Gignac

reflecting falling North American demand and concerns over inflation — or the beginning of a long-

term slide that could see a barrel of crude costing less than \$80 US within a year.

"A price of almost \$150 a barrel is unsustainable and the \$200 target advanced by some folks will soon prove a mirage," wrote National Bank Financial economist Clément Gignac.

But others feel the global supply-demand outlook will drive oil to \$200 a barrel over the next few years.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

HBC CHIEF Hudson's Bay Co. named Jeffrey Sherman as its new chief executive yesterday. He joins HBC from Polo Ralph Lauren, where he was president and chief operating officer of the Polo retail group. Sherman was also CEO of The Limited stores. **REUTERS**

INFLATION Soaring oil prices will push Canada's inflation to an above-target peak of 4.3 per cent early next year, but the Bank of Canada said yesterday income from hefty exports of oil and other commodities will help revive the economy. **REUTERS**

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Sony to sell movies, TV shows for PS3

GAMES Sony's new PS3 console is going Hollywood.

Sony, which unveiled a new video service for its PlayStation 3 console at the E3 video game industry trade show in Los Angeles, says it will rent out and sell movies and television programs online for the PS3.

The service will take a few months to reach Canada due to last-minute details to be ironed out with the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, said Matt Levitan, marketing and public relations representative for PlayStation Canada. But he says it will be well worth the wait. "The PS3 is really hitting its stride," he said. "Doubling the amount of hard drive space on the console is certainly an asset for our customers."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

features

Set for release in September in the U.S., the latest version of the PS3 will feature an 80-gigabyte hard drive for \$399, the same price as the PS3's current 40-gigabyte hard drive. Rentals for shows and movies are \$3, \$6 for hi-def, and \$15 to own, and will be compatible with the portable PSP console.

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Pulp mill layoffs likely:

Sources have said Northern Pulp Nova Scotia Corp, which bought the Abercrombie Point pulp mill in

Pictou county last month, has requested a meeting with the union to discuss a restructuring plan.

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Brian McBride, the former United States striker who retired from internationals two years ago, was one of three over-age players on the list for the under-23 event. **REUTERS**

Beijing Games

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Chambers ruling expected today

ATHLETICS Sprinter Dwain Chambers will have to wait until today to find out if his High Court challenge to an Olympic ban imposed by the British Olympic Association has been successful.

A decision had been expected yesterday. **REUTERS**

Yao returns after five months

BASKETBALL Yao Ming gave China's Olympic basketball hopes a boost when he returned to action for the first time after five months on the sidelines in China's 96-72 victory over Serbia in a warm-up tournament yesterday. **REUTERS**

IAAF rejects Pistorius' claim

ATHLETICS The International Association of Athletics Federations rejected an accusation from double amputee Oscar Pistorius yesterday that it was desperate to stop him competing at the Beijing Olympics.

Pistorius, who successfully appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport against an IAAF ban, failed in his bid to run in the 400 metres but still hopes to be a member of South Africa's 4x400 relay squad. **REUTERS**

Sports in brief

SOCCER China has taken the daily running of its soccer team away from Ratomir Djukovic for health reasons, state media reported yesterday. **REUTERS**

BEIJING An official admitted yesterday he had no idea when exactly three crucial new subway lines would open. **REUTERS**

SOCCER Abby Wambach suffered a broken leg during the United States' 1-0 victory over Brazil on Wednesday and will miss the Games. **REUTERS**

Monday's lineup

MONEY TALKS Canadian Sport Centre's Casey Pearce says the image of the poor athlete is a myth, but swimmer Adam Sioui disagrees. "If my parents weren't there to give me support," he says, "I don't think I would have made it to this level." Read Monday's Metro for more.

20 days remain until the official start of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing.



Chinese authorities are tightening security in the lead-up to the 2008 Summer Olympics, which kick off on Aug. 8 in Beijing.

Beijing in lockdown mode

Pre-Games security crackdown continues as foreigners exit in droves

Is the Olympic party over even before it begins?

With every passing day, Beijing is slowly going into lockdown.

Foreigners are being scrutinized more than ever before, random security checks have begun on the city's subways and visa restrictions continue to tighten. Whether Beijing's Olympics can be the open, welcoming, joyous celebration for which the Games have come to be known is questionable.

But one thing is certain: Canada's Derek Hildenbrand won't be here.

The 29-year-old Web marketing specialist from Banff, Alta., has called Beijing home for 4 1/2 years.

But on Canada Day, he left for Eastern Europe — a casualty of the Chinese government's visa regulations being more strictly en-

forced as the countdown to the Games quickens.

Like countless thousands of foreigners, Hildenbrand was in Beijing on an easily renewable F-visa. Now the government has terminated F-visas — and he'll have to reapply from abroad.

"It's a major hassle," Hildenbrand said.

"And trying to find answers from the government is impossible. No one seems to know what's going on."

It's all part of the ever-tightening stranglehold of security that has gripped the city since the beginning of the new year.

With more than 100 heads of state coming to the Games, and the eyes of the world looking on, Chinese authorities have become — perhaps understandably — obsessed with security and are trying to examine and re-examine the status of every foreigner in Beijing.

National image counts, too.

Authorities have been shutting down selected bars, magazines, dissidents and websites — anyone and anything they feel might adversely affect China's reputation.

"They want this to be an absolutely perfect presentation," says Gilbert Kerckhove, a Beijing-based consultant. "They don't want to leave anything to chance."

For young Westerners who in recent years have flooded into Beijing — bringing their party spirit with them — it could be the end of an era, or at the very least, a long hiatus.

"There have been a lot of clampdowns," says Hildenbrand, "and it just doesn't seem to be as much fun."

Legitimately or otherwise, foreigners have been a target.

In the words of the China

"They want this to be an absolutely perfect presentation. They don't want to leave anything to chance."

Gilbert Kerckhove

Law Blog, an award-winning Chinese website: "China's law enforcement against foreigners is constantly getting stricter and the pace has only accelerated in the last few months."

The visa restrictions pushing many Westerners out today are only the most recent escalation of ever-tightening security.

But China's security concerns are real, Kerckhove says, adding: "They're scared to death, especially about the possibility of an airborne attack."

Just yesterday, officials

announced Beijing will restrict aircraft landing and taking off during the opening ceremony on Aug. 8 due to security concerns.

And last month, Chinese security officials revealed batteries of surface-to-air missiles have been placed within 800 metres of the Bird's Nest stadium, the architectural centrepiece of the Games that will host the opening and closing ceremonies.

But the visa clampdown will come with adverse consequences for legitimate businesses.

"Business is drying up," Kerckhove says, noting that delays in getting visas have meant business trips to China and meetings have had to be rescheduled and even cancelled. He predicts that for the next two months, "industry and trade is going to grind to a halt."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

10 things you should know if you're going to Beijing

The Beijing Olympics promise to be the most security-conscious ever. China has even released a list of dos and don'ts for visitors:

1. If a foreigner stays in the home of a Chinese resident, she must report to the local police within 24 hours.
2. A foreigner operating a motor vehicle must hold a state-issued temporary driver's permit.
3. All of China is not open to foreigners, who may not trav-

el to prohibited areas without permission.

4. Places of entertainment may not operate between 2 a.m. and 8 a.m.

5. Foreigners must carry passports at all times. Police can examine your documents at any time.

6. China forbids the display of insulting slogans and banners promoting religious, political or ethnic slogans in Olympic stadiums.

7. To hold a rally, demonstra-

tion or protest, application must be made to the Public Security Office.

8. Prostitution is forbidden.

9. Guns and ammunition, crossbows, daggers and similar weapons are not permitted without authorization.

10. To burn, damage, inscribe, stain, stomp on or by any other means deface the Chinese flag or other emblems of China in a public place is a criminal offence.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



An Olympic volunteer greets foreign tourists as they arrive at the new International airport in Beijing.

Yankees add slugger Sexson

The New York Yankees have reached a tentative agreement with first baseman Richie Sexson, who was released by the Seattle Mariners a week ago, ESPN.com is reporting. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Sports

SPORTS EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA



An ESPY for Sidney

Cole Harbour's Sidney Crosby picked up some more hardware, as the Pittsburgh Penguins star won an ESPY award as the top NHL player. The 16th annual awards handed out by American sports broadcaster ESPN were held Wednesday night and will air on TSN Sunday night at 10 p.m.

Baseball's success remarkable

Despite a failing economy record numbers heading to MLB ballparks

YorkReport

Marty York

marty.york@metronews.ca

The economy sucks, baseball is far too slow for the fast-paced world in which we live, and MLB commissioner Bud Selig is pretty well a buffoon.

And yet, despite these three undeniable factballs, big-league baseball is somehow not striking out. Rather, it is defying the odds. As it launches the post-All-Star-Game portion of its schedule, MLB is actually on pace to reach a mind-boggling attendance record — 80-million spec-

tators.

While companies throughout Canada and the United States are folding, while mortgages cannot be paid, and while gas tanks cannot be filled, turnstiles at MLB parks somehow spin at an unprecedented rate.

What gives?

Selig's belief is that baseball, for a reason he can't quite figure out, is bullet-proof to the economy. He figures families might call off long vacation trips because of the absurd gas prices they're dealing with but will still be inclined to patronize MLB ballparks.

"I don't have empirical data to support my theory," the commish said this week. "It's just something I feel, that's all."

Official odds

- To win NL pennant: Cubs — 3/2; Mil. — 7/2; Phil. — 11/2.
- To win AL pennant: Bos. — 7/5; T.B. — 2/1; LAA — 7/2.
- To win NL Cy Young: Tim Lincecum, S.F., 5/2; Brandon Webb, Ari., 7/2; Edinson Volquez, Cin., 5/1.
- To win AL Cy Young: Cliff Lee, Cle., and Justin Duchscherer, Oak., 9/2; Roy Halladay, Tor., 5/1.

Whatever, Selig is either the luckiest guy in sports or the slyest because, somehow, baseball is on pace to set its fifth consecutive attendance record. And that's remarkable, really.

• I still think Selig and his stuffed-shirt colleagues are out to lunch, however, when they continue to defend the most inequitable rule difference in sports.

I mean, why does the NL not use a designated hitter? It creates such a dra-

matic disparity between it and the AL that it's almost unfathomable. The AL has been using the DH since 1973, for crying out loud. The NL still lives in the dark ages.

How ridiculous is it for AL pitchers who haven't hit in years suddenly having to pretend to do so in NL parks, even during the World Series?

• While Selig gets off scot-free for his DH dizziness, he'll find himself in an ocean of hot water if

Barry Bonds isn't signed by an MLB club soon.

A few contenders are expressing interest in Bonds — including the Arizona Diamondbacks and Detroit Tigers — but should he remain unemployed in another 10 days or so, look for the MLB Players Association to file a legal grievance claiming owners and executives conspired to keep the controversial home-run king out of the majors.

• For Canadian football stuff, including details of a private memo sent out to clubs from league headquarters, check out my latest CFL Report, exclusively at www.metronews.ca.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Phillies acquire Blanton from A's

MLB The Philadelphia Phillies bolstered a thin starting rotation yesterday, acquiring pitcher Joe Blanton from the Oakland Athletics for three minor league prospects.

The Phillies sent infielder Adrian Cardenas, outfielder Matt Spencer and pitcher Josh Outman to Oakland in exchange for Blanton.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports in brief

NHL The NHL announced the 2008-09 regular season schedule yesterday, and the NHL premiere event will take place in Sweden and the Czech Republic on October 4-5. In back-to-back games, the New York Rangers and Tampa Bay Lightning will battle in Prague, while the Ottawa Senators and Pittsburgh Penguins will meet in Stockholm.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Norman in contention at British Open

PGA Two-time former champion Greg Norman, who plays more tennis than golf at the age of 53, spectacularly stole the limelight from the game's best players in yesterday's opening round at the British Open.

The former world No. 1, the second-oldest player in the 153-strong field, fired a level-par 70 to end a grueling day one stroke off the pace at a wet, wind-buffed Royal Birkdale.

U.S. Open runner-up Rocco Mediate seized control with a 69 before being joined at the top of the leaderboard by Scottish Open champion Graeme

McDowell and Australian Robert Allenby.

Despite having missed three cuts in his five appearances worldwide this year, Norman moved into contention with a patient display of links-course golf.

"I don't play much (golf) and I don't practice much," Norman told reporters after taking advantage of easing afternoon conditions. "I probably practice more tennis than golf but at the same time there's something about this event that stimulates you."

Canada's Mike Weir sits in a tie for seventh place at one-over par. Stephen Ames is at three-over. **REUTERS**



Canada's Mike Weir looks for his lost ball in the rough on the 16th hole during the first round of play at the 2008 British Open at Royal Birkdale yesterday. Weir sits in a tie for seventh place.

SCOREBOARD

MLB					W	L	PCT	GB	N.Y. Mets at Cincinnati, 8:10						
AMERICAN LEAGUE					Chicago Cubs	57	38	.600	—	Philadelphia at Florida, 8:10					
EAST DIVISION					St. Louis	54	43	.557	4	Washington at Atlanta, 8:35					
	W	L	PCT	GB	Milwaukee	52	43	.547	5	Chicago Cubs at Houston, 9:05					
Boston	57	40	.588	—	Cincinnati	46	51	.474	12	San Diego at St. Louis, 9:15					
Tampa Bay	55	39	.585	1/2	Pittsburgh	40	50	.468	12 1/2	Pittsburgh at Colorado, 10:05					
N.Y. Yankees	50	45	.526	6	Houston	44	51	.463	13	L.A. Dodgers at Arizona, 10:40					
Toronto	47	48	.495	9	WEST DIVISION					Milwaukee at San Francisco, 11:15					
Baltimore	45	49	.479	10 1/2	Arizona	W	L	PCT	GB	CFL					
CENTRAL DIVISION					L.A. Dodgers	46	49	.484	1	EAST DIVISION	W	L	T	PTS	
	W	L	PCT	GB	San Francisco	40	55	.421	7	Montreal	2	1	0	4	
Chicago Sox	54	40	.574	—	Colorado	39	57	.406	8 1/2	Hamilton	1	2	0	2	
Minnesota	53	42	.558	1 1/2	San Diego	37	59	.385	10 1/2	Toronto	1	2	0	2	
Detroit	48	47	.505	6 1/2	AMERICAN LEAGUE					Winnipeg	0	3	0	0	
Kansas City	43	53	.448	12	Detroit 6	Baltimore 5	WEST DIVISION					W	L	T	GB
Cleveland	41	53	.436	13	NATIONAL LEAGUE					Saskatchewan	3	0	0	6	
WEST DIVISION					N.Y. Mets 10 Cincinnati 8					Edmonton	2	1	0	4	
	W	L	PCT	GB	St. Louis 4 San Diego 3					Calgary	2	1	0	4	
L.A. Angels	57	38	.600	—	Pittsburgh at Colorado					B.C.	1	2	0	2	
Oakland	51	44	.537	6	TONIGHT'S GAMES					WEEK 4					
Texas	50	46	.521	7 1/2	AMERICAN LEAGUE					LAST NIGHT'S GAME					
Seattle	37	58	.389	20	Oakland at N.Y. Yankees, 8:05	DETROIT					Hamilton at Calgary				
NATIONAL LEAGUE					Detroit at Baltimore, 8:05	TORONTO					TONIGHT'S GAME				
EAST DIVISION					Toronto at Tampa Bay, 8:10	KANSAS CITY					Winnipeg at B.C., 11				
	W	L	PCT	GB	Texas at Minnesota, 9:10					TOMORROW'S GAME					
Philadelphia	52	44	.542	—	Kansas City at Chicago White Sox, 9:11					Montreal at Saskatchewan, 8					
N.Y. Mets	52	44	.542	—	BOSTON					SUNDAY'S GAME					
Florida	50	45	.526	1 1/2	Boston at L.A. Angels, 11:05					Edmonton at Toronto, 4					
Atlanta	45	50	.474	6 1/2	Cleveland at Seattle, 11:10										
Washington	36	60	.375	16	NATIONAL LEAGUE										
CENTRAL DIVISION															

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HARNESS RACING

Somebeachsomewhere looks to go 11-0

Nova Scotia-owned Somebeachsomewhere will put his undefeated career on the line on Saturday night at the \$1.1-million Meadowslands Pace in East Rutherford, N.J.

The three-year-old colt, winner of all 10 of his races to date, is the 2-5 favourite for the event after destroying his rivals in last weekend's \$50,000 elimination heats.

Somebeachsomewhere posted a career-best 1:48.3, good for a four-and-a-half-length win and an elimination-heat record.

Somebeachsomewhere reached lifetime earnings of nearly \$1.7 million, including the \$1.5-million North American Cup last month.

Trainer Brent MacGrath is one of six co-owners from the Truro.

METRO HALIFAX/TRURO DAILY NEWS

IWK 250 set for Saturday

Antigonish's Riverside International Speedway set to host top racers

MATTHEW WUEST

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Aric Almirola didn't need much arm-twisting from Regan Smith to book his airline ticket for Nova Scotia.

The 24-year-old NASCAR Sprint Cup racer ditched the notion of taking vacation on his off-week after Smith gave a ringing endorsement to the annual IWK 250, set for Saturday at Riverside International Speedway near Antigonish.

It's Smith's second trip to the IWK 250. "Heck, I couldn't turn it down," said Almirola, after visiting children in the sunny playground at the IWK yesterday. "He told me it was a lot of fun, and I love racin'. It'd be cool, sure, to go off to an island or stay at home for a weekend, but to come up here for such a good cause ... it's a real pleasure."

Almirola and Smith, teammates with Dale Earnhardt Inc., brought plenty of smiles to the faces of the kids during their IWK visit, answering questions and signing NASCAR gear.



NASCAR driver Regan Smith signs autographs for young fans yesterday. Smith and fellow Dale Earnhardt Inc. teammate Aric Almirola will compete in the IWK 250 tomorrow.

Smith, who finished third last year, loved every minute of his experience, despite a lengthy rain delay. "Aric called me up and asked me, 'What's it like, what's it all about?'" recalls Smith, who has earned nearly \$1.8 million in

Sprint Cup competition this season.

"I said, 'It's a great trip, a great track, and the fans are awesome.' I think he was pretty much sold at that point."

The IWK 250 features the best auto racers from the

Maritimes and New England, as well as NASCAR talent. The winner could take home as much as \$23,000 of the \$103,450 purse.

Smith, who sits second in the Sprint Cup's rookie-of-the-year standings, is back

with a vengeance.

"I definitely wanted to come back to win," said Smith. "I messed up at the end of the race last year and wore my tires out. I learned from that. I have every intention to be up there and battling with these guys at the end of the race."

Almirola, who has earned nearly \$600,000 on the Sprint Cup circuit this year, is also eyeing the checkered flag.

"That's always the goal when you get in the race car," he said. "I'm hoping we have a good car. I've been told it's really fast, so hopefully just get in there and wheel it."

Racers on the Carquest Maritime Pro Stock Tour cannot collect points in this weekend's race, but the prize money will make competition fierce. Enfield's Shawn Turple, one of Carquest's top drivers, is eager to see how he measures up.

"Our cars are equivalent and (Almirola and Smith) are definitely not lacking in the driving department," Turple said. "If they get the cars handling well, they'll be tough to beat."

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Jung wins junior in dominating fashion

14-year-old Irene Jung from Bedford claimed the Nova Scotia Golf Association's junior girls championship yesterday.

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Irene Jung of The Links at Penn Hills is the Nova Scotia Golf Association junior girls champion.

The 14-year-old from Bedford capped a dominating wire-to-wire performance at the Eden Golf and Country Club yesterday near Bridgetown by shooting a 4-over 76.

Jung's four-day total of 316 gave her an easy 36-stroke edge. Bedford's Brynn Tomie of Northumberland fired an 83 yesterday to finish second with a

four-day 352.

Eden's Courtney Balcome, Ashburn's Olivia Driscoll and Oakfield's Olivia Thomas rounded out the top five.

In boys action, Eric Locke from the home club didn't let up on the final day and earned a wire-to-wire win of his own. He fired a 3-under 69 yesterday to finish with a 287, four strokes ahead of runner-up Luke Dempsey of Oakfield.

Dempsey fired a 2-under 70 for a four-day 291.

Ashburn's Sean Stuart, Ken-Wo's Ally Tidcombe and Truro's Eric Banks rounded out the top five.



Love brothers

Will Ferrell reunites with John C. Reilly and says he loves the improvised feel of Step Brothers. **page 16**



Going Out, page 22 **Pride celebrations**

The motto of this year's **Pride Week** offers a modern twist on a quaint Nova Scotia slogan.



Next week

Stay tuned for a review of **The X-Files: I Want to Believe**

metro

movies

HALIFAX

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Next week

Rick McGinnis talks to the director of **American Teen**



Space Chimps opens today.

Space Chimps is a champ

JIM REYNO
jim.reyno@metronews.ca



Space Chimps
Director: Kirk De Micco
Stars: Andy Samberg, Patrick Warburton
Classification: G
Rating: ●●●●●

REVIEW It's a difficult line to walk. The cocksure hero can't be too arrogant, or he won't win our hearts. There has to be charm and vulnerability in the mix, or we won't care what happens. With Ham III, the sarcastic, high-flying,

naturally gifted, golden-hearted, computer-generated hero of Space Chimps, we care.

Ham III, voiced by Saturday Night Live's Andy Samberg in this CGI kids flick, gets a lot of laughs. He's cocky, but it's easy to see through his posturing.

His grandfather — Ham — was a famous chimpanzee astronaut, and Ham III hasn't come close to living up to his family's legacy. He's a circus chimp who gets fired out of a cannon.

But when Ham III gets recruited to lead an impor-

tant space mission, he gets his chance to make his mark.

What follows is a predictable but entertaining story, kind of an Odyssey-Star Wars mix for chimps.

The kids will love Space Chimps. Kirk De Micco's script is snappy, and there isn't much downtime in the brisk 81 minutes.

A couple of times, a gag is on the verge of being too long when De Micco wisely moves things along.

Space Chimps is well paced and will keep the young ones attentive.

And although the story

is tried and true, it still holds together for adults.

Many CGI filmmakers try to cram in as many pop-culture references as possible, as if to say "look how clever we are!"

De Micco uses them sparingly and effectively without getting in the way of the narrative.

Space Chimps is the type of film kids can relate to, and parents can describe as "cute" when they talk about it amongst themselves.

And, as always, the CGI technology is a feast for the eyes.

Musicals are not for everyone

RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginis@metronews.ca



Mamma Mia!
Director: Phyllida Lloyd
Stars: Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●●●●

REVIEW You should know that you've been forewarned when there's an exclamation mark in the title of a movie, I suppose.

The first 20 minutes of Mamma Mia! are taken up with arrivals on a Greek island where Sophie (Amanda Seyfried) is getting married at the hotel run by Donna (Meryl Streep), her hippie mother.

There's Sophie's bridesmaids, and Donna's old running mates Rosie (Julie Walters) and Tanya (Christine Baranski), all of whom greet each other with a symphony of squeals, and by the time the cast is belting out

Dancing Queen, the first tremors of a crippling migraine should be lancing through your cortex like a knitting needle.

Based on the Broadway musical that made ABBA songs even more omnipresent than they were, it's the story of Sophie's search for her father, after learning that he could have been any one of three men her mother slept with during some eventful summer in the '70s.

The three — played by Pierce Brosnan, Stellan Skarsgard and Colin Firth — arrive on the island and become the catalyst for a blaring but improbable farce predicated on the assumption that no one is capable of pausing for a second and reflecting on the obvious.

It's a plot that, should someone have suggested the simple expediency of a DNA test, would have pulled the whole movie up short after just one song.



Stellan Skarsgard, Pierce Brosnan and Colin Firth try to figure out who the daddy is in Mamma Mia!, opening this weekend.

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Reel Times

Quote of the week

"I've been waiting for seven years for the call. People go, 'Why do we have to wait seven years for another "Mummy" movie?' And I was like, 'You tell me, DUUUUDE.'" —BRENDAN FRASER TALKS TO MSN ENTERTAINMENT ABOUT HIS NEW FILM, THE MUMMY: TOMB OF THE DRAGON EMPEROR, WHICH WILL BE RELEASED THIS SUMMER.



Ferrell loves to improv

Talladega Nights star reunites with McKay and Reilly in Step Brothers

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada



FEATURE Whether it's one of his more memorable skits from Saturday Night Live or on the big-screen, Will Ferrell always seems like he's having a good time. As it turns out, that was exactly the case when Ferrell made Talladega Nights with director Adam McKay and co-star John C. Reilly. After finishing the 2006 comedy, the threesome made a "blood pact" to reunite.

"You have fun experiences (on films) and you say 'let's do it again' and then it slips through your fingers," says Ferrell. "So we really made a point to sit down and meet."

Following several brainstorm dinners, McKay dreamed up a ridiculous story about two feuding middle-aged slackers who would be forced to cope with each other after their respective parents met and got married.

The result: the hilarious new movie Step Brothers (out next Friday).



Will Ferrell's comedic talents will hit the big screen next week in Step Brothers.

As with their previous effort, Step Brothers mostly works because it's filled with moments of inspired improvisation and madness.

"Adam's one of the few directors who we kind of do the take once and then we begin improvising whether we want to or not," says Ferrell. "It's un-

"We improvise a lot in the writing process so I think even our written scenes have that kind of back and forth feel that make it seem improvised."

Will Ferrell on Step Brothers

usual because most directors have you work on the scene until you have it down and then maybe you try an extra take just for fun."

However, Ferrell defends the final cut insisting that it's mostly scripted. "We improvise a lot in the writing process so I think even our written scenes have that kind of back and forth feel that make it seem improvised."

It's that touch of magic that has also turned the Step Brother trio into Internet stars. After launching the website FunnyorDie.com, Ferrell and McKay garnered even more fans with hysterical homemade videos like The Landlord (starring McKay's foul-mouthed toddler Pearl).

Not only has it been

viewed over 57 million times, but HBO has now invested in FunnyorDie.com with plans to produce specials from the website.

Step Brothers definitely follows the same sense of humor found on FunnyorDie.com and, specifically, the only skit that stars all three Step Brothers collaborators — a sketch called The Green Team featuring unusual envoi-tips ("a compost bin is a great place to store a baby when you're finished with them").

When asked if that might be the next big-screen collaboration by the trio, McKay responds perhaps sarcastically, but without hesitation: "We'll pitch it. Sadistic environmentalists who go around beating people up — it's very sellable."

O'REGAN'S GREEN LIGHT USED CAR CENTRE NOW OPEN



Hollywood actors, studios keep quiet after meeting

INDUSTRY Hollywood studios and the Screen Actors Guild held their third meeting since the studios declared an end to contract negotiations, but the two sides parted company again without any public comment. The uncertain outcome of session came as the stalemate between SAG and the studios' bargaining agent, the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, dragged into its third week with no final act in sight.

"A small group from AMPTP and SAG met today. Both parties agreed that the contents of the meeting should be kept private," the producers alliance said in a statement released late on Wednesday. No further meetings were scheduled. A corresponding message from SAG likewise said both sides agreed to keep their interaction confidential.

The contract at issue covers the work of 120,000 SAG members in prime-

time TV and movies, an industry still reeling from a 14-week screenwriters strike that ended in February. A strike by the actors is seen as unlikely.

SAG, for example, has sought higher residual payments for actors from DVD sales and to extend its contract coverage to all made-for-Internet programming. So far, SAG leaders have played down the likelihood of a strike, a move that would require a 75 per cent vote by members. Many in-

dusty watchers doubt SAG could muster the support in light of lingering fatigue from the recent writers' work stoppage.

Much of the entertainment industry already has slipped into a de facto strike mode, as major studios have halted most of their productions to avoid costly labour disruptions. According to Daily Variety, studios are now considering moving forward with new film projects before a settlement is reached.

REUTERS

<p>2008 Camry LE was \$23,990 Power Group, 4DR, A/C NOW \$23,490</p>	<p>2005 Mini Cooper was \$23,990 A/C, Power Group, CD, ABS NOW \$22,990</p>	<p>2007 Yaris Sedan was \$16,990 Power Group, Auto Transmission, A/C NOW \$16,490</p>	<p>2003 Pontiac Sunfire was \$8,990 CD, Power Brakes, Power Steering NOW \$7,490</p>	<p>2005 Toyota Corolla was \$16,990 AC, CD, Cruise Control NOW \$16,490</p>
<p>2004 Element was \$17,999 2DR, Auto Transmission, Power Group, A/C, Alloys NOW \$15,990</p>	<p>2004 Toyota 4Runner was \$23,990 Power Group, A/C, Cruise Control, 4X4 NOW \$22,990</p>	<p>2006 Saturn Ion was \$13,990 2DR Coupe, 5SP, A/C, 39,000km NOW \$12,990</p>	<p>2005 Cobalt was \$13,990 Power Group, A/C, ABS, Cruise Control NOW \$12,990</p>	<p>2003 Saturn Vue was \$16,990 Power Group, A/C, Cruise Control NOW \$16,490</p>

Casting

Will Ferrell is starring in Sony Pictures' *Two Face*, a dramedy scripted by Vince Gilligan (Hancock, Home Fries). **EW.COM**

Former AOL execs back documentary film site

FEATURE FILMS Three former top executives of Time Warner Inc.'s AOL are backing a new online video venture being launched yesterday aimed at creating a new outlet for documentary feature films, a category that has struggled to gain mainstream attention.

Founded by AOL Vice Chairman Emeritus Ted Leonsis, the site, SnagFilms, will offer about 200 feature-length films initially, with about 750 available by the end of the year.

Instead of relying on offering its films on other big Internet video portals such as AOL or Microsoft Corp.'s MSN, SnagFilms will let its viewers embed films on their own home pages or Facebook and MySpace pages, relying on a strategy made popular by sites such as Google Inc.'s YouTube.

The business is backed by Leonsis, AOL co-founder and Revolution LLC Chairman Steve Case and former AOL executive and former Time Warner board member Miles Gilburne, who is now a venture capitalist.

Former Discovery Communications executive Rick Allen is SnagFilms's CEO.

The project was born out of Leonsis's realization that documentary films, although abundant, have few options when it comes to being shown in theaters.

"I'm shocked at how broken the business infrastructure is," Leonsis said in a telephone interview.

His documentary Nanking, about the Japanese invasion of the Chinese province, was eventually picked up for theatrical release, as well as distributed by Time Warner's HBO cable network. But of the vast majority of the 7,000 entries at the 2007 Sun-

dance Film Festival, where Nanking made its debut, only 120 films were selected for showing and about 10 actually snatched deals.

"There's no way anyone will make money," Leonsis said.

Over time, he expects the site to appeal to more viewers than traditional documentary buffs.

"Everyone has a camera in their telephone. Everyone's growing up in a YouTube world," Leonsis said. "Documentary reality based programming won't be a niched (category), but a major way for self expression."

FILMANTHROPY

Films on the service will be available for streaming on computers for free and will be subsidized by advertising. Half of the ad revenue will be split with filmmakers.

A big component of the service is filmmakers can link their video Web pages to charities of their choice. Director Morgan Spurlock's "Super Size Me" page, for instance, provides links to GlobalGiving, a foundation that connects donors with projects.

As part of the launch, SnagFilms is also expected to announce it has acquired for an undisclosed sum, indieWIRE, a news, information and social network for the international independent film community, SnagFilms said in statement.

At the launch, SnagFilms will feature documentaries and videos from PBS, National Geographic, Sundance Preserve, Peter Jennings Productions, Arts Alliance and others.

AOL will provide the technical infrastructure and ad sales and will have the right to use SnagFilms content on AOL sites.

REUTERS

Baruchel on Buried

Montreal actor grateful when he can stay in Canada

RICK MCGINNIS

rick.mcginis@metronews.ca



FEATURE Most people know him as part of the posse of actors associated with writer/director Judd Apatow, but Jay Baruchel still makes Montreal his home base, and says that he's grateful when he gets a chance to stay in Canada and make a film like Chaz Thorne's *Just Buried*, a black comedy about a no-hoper who inherits a rural funeral home from the father he barely knew.

"I'm always looking for an excuse to pay some rent and stay in Canada," says Baruchel, who began his career in Hollywood with a small role in *Almost Famous* before entering the Apatow universe with the brilliant-but-canceled TV series *Undeclared*.

"I read one of the best scripts I'd ever read when I read *Just Buried* — laughed, read the whole thing through in one sitting and never had to force myself to keep reading."

"I hate using terms like this, but I really did fall in love with the character, man. The kid really did



Jay Baruchel will hit the big screen next as Oliver Zinck in Chaz Thorne's *Just Buried*.

make me laugh, and it was very close to my sense of humour, this movie. I guess I've said it before, but when I read a script I

really like it's like when I meet a girl I really like — I get butterflies in my stomach. That's literally what happened, and my mind

then goes to that neurotic, negative place, where it's like 'There's no way this girl is single. There's no way this part isn't cast yet.' It was a full-court press — I was going to make it my mission to play Oliver Whynot. I had the most fun ever making that movie, man."

The put-upon Oliver is of a piece with roles that Baruchel seems to have made his specialty, from *Undeclared* to *Knocked Up* to the upcoming *Tropic Thunder* and *Fanboys*. Does he worry about getting typecast?

"Yeah. I worry about getting cancer, too, but it's like all I can do is do the things that I like. And I know that I have no interest in playing parts that I've already played before. That being said, I've got to pay rent and buy cat food. No one knew I was in *Million Dollar Baby* until I mentioned it to them. I think that it's a testament to that movie — I take that as a compliment. I can't be in any danger of being typecast if I play a retarded Texas boxer, which is pretty far away from what I know."

Bollywood stars light up the lives of a billion people

INDIA Bollywood stars are teaming up with a renowned climate change scientist to help brighten the lives of a billion people through a project that aims to provide 200,000 villages with electricity for the first time. Bollywood icon Amitabh Bachchan and others from the Indian film industry will help raise money for the "Lighting a Billion Lives" campaign through

proceeds of their "Unforgettable" concert tour of North America and Europe.

"The Indian film industry, and in particular Mr Bachchan, has a massive fan following and their involvement in such causes can be a powerful instrument for social transformation," Rajendra Pachauri, head of the Nobel Prize-winning UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate

Change, told Reuters in an email. Revenues from the Bollywood tour, which starts in Toronto this Friday, would help provide electric lanterns to some 100 villages, he added.

By February, the campaign, an initiative of The Energy and Resources Institute which Pachauri heads, aims to replace hazardous kerosene and paraffin lanterns with solar-pow-

ered devices in 200,000 villages in India, Pakistan, Maldives, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Ghana, Malawi and Cambodia.

Pachauri, whose panel shared the Nobel peace prize last year with former U.S. Vice President Al Gore, said at least 1.6 billion people worldwide do not have access to electricity, and 25 per cent of them were in India.

REUTERS

2004 Nissan Altima was \$14,990 A/C, Cruise Control, ABS	2006 G5 Pursuit was \$15,990 A/C, CD	2007 Mazda 5 was \$20,990 ABS, A/C, Power Group	2005 Ford Ranger was \$17,990 Power Group, A/C, 4X4
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Screen Times

This page covers movie start times from Fri., July 18 to Thurs., July 24. Times are subject to change.

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The Dark Knight (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-1-2:30-4:30-6:45-8-9-10
Get Smart (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:50-9:25
Hancock (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-1:50-3:50-4:10-6:40-7:10-9:20-9:40
Hellboy II: The Golden Army (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 12:40-1:10-3:40-4:20-6:30-7:05-9:15-9:50
Journey to the Center of the Earth (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:40-1:10-3:40-4:20-6:30-7:05-9:15-9:50
The Incredible Hulk (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 9:10
Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Sat 3:15-6:35-9:25
Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 3:15
Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 3:15-6:35-9:25
Journey to the Center of the Earth (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 1-3:30-6:40-9:10
Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1-3:30-6:40-9:10
Kit Kittredge: An American Girl (G) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:50
Kung Fu Panda (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 1:15-3:40-6:35
Mamma Mia! (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-3:20-4:10-6:30-7:10-9:30-9:50
Meet Dave (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 2:45-6:50
Sex and the City (18) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 9
Space Chimps (G) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 1:40-4:45-8:50
WALL-E (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:30
Wanted (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:40-4:10-7:40
WWE: Great American Bash (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 9

IMAX
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The Dark Knight: The IMAX Experience (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:3:15-6:30-9:45

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The Dark Knight (PG) Fri 2-8 Sat-Sun 12:30-4-8 Mon-Thu 2-8

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5657 Spring Garden Rd.
902-423-4860



From left, Doug Jones as Abe, Ron Perlman as Hellboy and Selma Blair as Liz in a scene from Hellboy II: The Golden Army, which is currently in theatres.

The Dark Knight (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-6:30-8:45-9:50-11:50
Hancock (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Sat 12:30-3:40-7:20-10 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Sun 12:30-3:40 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Sun 7:20-10 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 12:30-3:40-7:20-10
Hellboy II: The Golden Army (14) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:40-9:40
Journey to the Center of the Earth (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:10-3:10-6:50-9:10
Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sun 12:10-3:10-6:50-9:10
Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:10-3:10-6:50-9:10
Mamma Mia! (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:30-7:30
Meet Dave (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:05-2:45-6:45
WALL-E (G) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:2-50-7:10-9:35
Wanted (18) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating

Fri-Thu 9:20
WWE: Great American Bash (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 9

Lower Sackville

LOWER SACKVILLE
760 Sackville Dr., Downsview Plaza
902-869-2022

The Dark Knight (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 2-6:30-9:50 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:3-10-6:30-9:50 Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 2-6:30-9:50
Get Smart (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 9:20 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 3:20-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 9:20
Hancock (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 2:40-6:50-9 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 1-3:15-6:50-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2:40-6:50-9
Hellboy II: The Golden Army (14) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 2:20-6:45-9:25 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30-6:45-9:25 Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon 2:20-6:45-9:25 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 2:20-6:45-9:25

Journey to the Center of the Earth (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 2:30-7:15-9:40 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:15-3:45-7:15-9:40 Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon 2:30-7:15-9:40 Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 2:30-7:15-9:40
Mamma Mia! (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 2:40-7:30 Stadium Seating, No Passes Sat-Sun 1:10-3:45-7:30 Stadium Seating, No Passes Mon-Thu 2:40-7:30
Meet Dave (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 2:15-7:10 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:40-7:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2:15-7:10
WALL-E (G) Stadium Seating Fri 2:10-7:9:20 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:30-3:7-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 2:10-7:9:20

Dartmouth

DARTMOUTH
650 Portland St., 902-434-4200

Cruising Bar 2 (14) Stereo Fri 6:40-9:05 Stereo Sat-Sun 2:10-6:40-9:05 Stereo Mon-Thu 6:40-9:05

Get Smart (PG) Stereo Fri 6:35-9 Stereo Sat-Sun 2:05-6:35-9 Stereo Mon-Thu 6:35-9
Hancock (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:55-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Sat-Sun 2:20-6:55-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Thu 6:55-9:15
The Incredible Hulk (PG) Stereo Fri-Thu 8:55
Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG) Stereo Fri 6:30-9 Stereo Sat-Sun 2:6:30-9 Stereo Mon-Thu 6:30-9
Kung Fu Panda (PG) Stereo Sat-Sun 2:25
The Love Guru (14) Stereo Fri-Thu 6:50
Wanted (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2:15-6:45-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:45-9:10

DARTMOUTH CROSSING
145 Shubie Dr., Dartmouth Crossing
902-481-3251

The Dark Knight (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, Digital, No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-3:15-6:30-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri 12-1:15-3:30-4:30-6:45-8:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium

Seating, No Passes Sat-Thu 12-12:30-3:30-4:6:45-7:30-10
Hancock (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:25-7:10-9:30
Hellboy II: The Golden Army (14) Fri-Thu 12:55-1:15-3:40-3:55-6:35-7:25-9:50
Journey to the Center of the Earth (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:30-9
Mamma Mia! (PG) Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1-1:30-3:45-4:15-6:40-7:05-9:20-9:55
Meet Dave (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:35
Space Chimps (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:40-4:10-6:55-9:05
WALL-E (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:15-9:40
Wanted (18) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 4:05-6:35-9:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:05-6:35-9:10
WWE: Great American Bash (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 9

MERYL STREEP

PIERCE BROSNAN

COLIN FIRTH

STELLAN SKARSGÅRD

JULIE WALTERS

DOMINIC COOPER

AMANDA SEYFRIED

CHRISTINE BARANSKI

MAMMA MIA!

THE MOVIE

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PLAY-TO-ONE

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1. Viva La Vida, Coldplay, left;
2. Modern Guilt, Beck;
3. Two Men with the Blues, Willie Nelson and Wynton Marsalis. METRO

Music

Tales to rock the campfire

Dazzle your friends with these tidbits from the world of music

SoundCheck

Alan Cross

alan@ongoinghistory.com

I'm not quite sure how we let this happen, but July is already half over. Adding insult is an unkind calendar which has allowed Labour Day to fall on September 1st, the earliest possible it can be. In other words, if you haven't started enjoying summer, best get to it.

With that in mind, here are ten things about rock music that you can use to dazzle people around the campfire or the barbecue:

Johnny Rotten, leader of Sex Pistols is married to a woman named Nora Forster. She's an heir to a

German publishing and media fortune worth an estimated \$100 million. Meanwhile, Johnny has apparently made a nice killing in the real estate market.

Jack White of the White Stripes once aspired to be a priest. As a real-life altar boy in Detroit, he was cast in a 1987 movie called The Rosary Murders.

As a kid, Eddie Vedder was a professional model, appearing in department store catalogues as well as several TV commercials and at least one episode of the original Bozo the Clown.

While attending University College London, Coldplay's Chris Martin was the captain of the men's field hockey team.

Billy Talent used to be known as "Pezz." Pez, the candy company famous for their dispensers, was not impressed and threat-

ened to sue.

Between the time they were formed and their retirement, the Ramones played exactly 2,262 shows. Johnny Ramone documented every single one of them.

Blur bassist

Alex James has retired to the English countryside where he's become a master cheese maker. He's known for a variety of goat's cheese he calls "Little Wallop."

Stephen Hawking, the renowned wheelchair-bound physicist, is a major fan of Depeche Mode. He wrote them a number of fan letters, asking to meet them.

The Longest Pop/Rock Song Ever: In 1996, Chris Butler released The Devil Glitch. Its 500 verses unfolded over a little more than 69 minutes.



As a kid, Eddie Vedder was a professional model, appearing in department store catalogues as well as several TV commercials and at least one episode of the original Bozo the Clown.

But That's Nothing: John Cage's As Slow As Possible is currently being performed on an organ at a church in Halberstadt, Germany. It began on September 5, 2001 and is scheduled to end in 2640 after 639 years. (FYI: Weights are used to hold down keys on the organ.)

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read the Music Geek blog at ongoinghistory.com

CD Reviews

music@metronews.ca

Carla Bruni

Album: Comme si de Rien

N'Était Label: Naïve

Release date: July 15

★★★★★

SOME WILL pan Carla Bruni's new record simply because she's married to French President Nicolas Sarkozy. But take a listen to Comme si de Rien N'Était and you see that this model-turned-singer-turned-political figure is one talented first lady. Her third disc is full of soft, acoustic tracks, which touch on childhood, life at 40 and her famous husband. It's all very pleasant, but she's not as passionate as fellow Frenchie Karen Ann, who does baroque pop better. Still, after a couple spins it won't matter who this songstress is sleeping with.

Bryan Borzykowski

more online

To read the rest of this week's reviews visit metronews.ca.

Where the stars come to play!

Songwriters' Circle



Jully Black



OTHER PERFORMANCES ON THE SHOWROOM STAGE!

David Cassidy - August 22 & 23

Melanie Doane - August 29



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Canadian hair brand Quantum now offers FIX MEN hair products, specially engineered for male hairstyling needs. The line includes Fix It — Industrial Strength Gel, \$11.95/200ml, left. Available at fine salons nationwide. **METRO**

Style

Add interest with waistcoats

Style File

Kim Elbo



kim.elbo@metronews.ca

ask kim

What brand of sunscreen do you use?

I like to use a light and non greasy formula for my face. The Clarins SPF 40 Day Screen High Protection is great for everyday use and it sits well underneath makeup; it also doesn't sting if it gets into your eyes. For the rest of my body, I like to use Coppertone SPF 50 in the continuous spray bottle, it's easy to use and you don't need to rub it in. E-mail your style questions to kim.elbo@metronews.ca.

Vancouver's Kim Elbo has a passion for fashion. Here she shares the latest style tips.



\$30

Zip Pockets

Designer: H&M
Shop: H&M
Address: Various Locations
hm.com



\$140

Worn Out

My Favourite
Designer: Kate Moss for Top Shop
Shop: Holt Renfrew
holtrenfrew.com



\$320

Crop Top

Designer: mellinda-mae harlington
Shop: MMH Studio
mellinda-mae.com



\$39

Thigh High

My Favourite
Designer: Vero Moda
Shop: The Bay
Address: Various Locations
hbc.com



\$40

Short Shorts

Designer: American Eagle
Shop: American Eagle
Address: Various Locations
ae.com



\$140

Knee Length

Designer: Egg
Shop: Global Atomic
globalatomic.com

waistcoats

Take your outfit to the next level with a waistcoat. Waistcoats (also known as vests) are great for extending wardrobes because you can pair it with just about anything and if you buy a neutral block colour like grey or black you'll be able to wear it from season to season. Throw it on top of a T-shirt or dress and add a little interest to your outfit.

accessory

Want to know what all the girls are painting their nails and toes with this summer? Elephantastic Pink by OPI nail lacquer. \$13.



short lengths

This season shorts are up and down, you can go thigh high or down low to the knees and all will be acceptable. Keep an open mind with lengths; a mid-length short can be worn to the office, a longer knee is great for a casual weekend and a short short can be worn in the evening or out to the beach. Pull your short look together with a bright white shirt and a dark colour stack heel.

THE SECOND ANNUAL
Z103.5
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KREESHA TURNER - ENUR - ELISE ESTRADA
CHAØ HATCHER - LADY GAGA - SNAP!
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Going Out

Pride events

Here is a look at some of the Halifax Pride Week other starting this Sunday:

SUNDAY

- East Coast Rainbow Softball Association game on Halifax Common, 11:45 a.m.
- Dykes vs. Divas softball game on Halifax Common, 1 p.m.
- Homo Hopper tour of Halifax following the Dykes vs. Divas game
- Twoonie "T" Dance at the Bus Stop Theatre, 4 p.m.

MONDAY

- Pride Week proclamation and flag raising at Grand Parade, 5 p.m.
- Arcade and BBQ at The Youth Project, 6 p.m.
- Venus Envy presents Toys For Gay Boys, 6:30 p.m.
- Angels & Heroes Theatre's tribute concert to Elton John at the Music Room, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

- Time Out Lecture series at the Spring Garden Road library, noon.
- Talent Night at The Youth Project, 6 p.m.
- East Coast Outfitter's presents Ladies Night Paddle, 6 p.m.
- Venus Envy presents Sex Toys 101 For Queer Girls, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- Time Out Lecture series at the Spring Garden Road library, noon.
- The Youth Project presents Gender Scene Investigation, 6 p.m.
- Affirm United presents An Evening For Discussion at St. John's United Church, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Time Out Lecture series at the Spring Garden Road library, noon.
- East Coast Outfitter's presents Pride Paddle Night, 6 p.m.
- Reading Out Loud at the Halifax North Memorial Library, 7 p.m.
- DaPoPo Café at Mollyz Diner, 7:30 p.m.

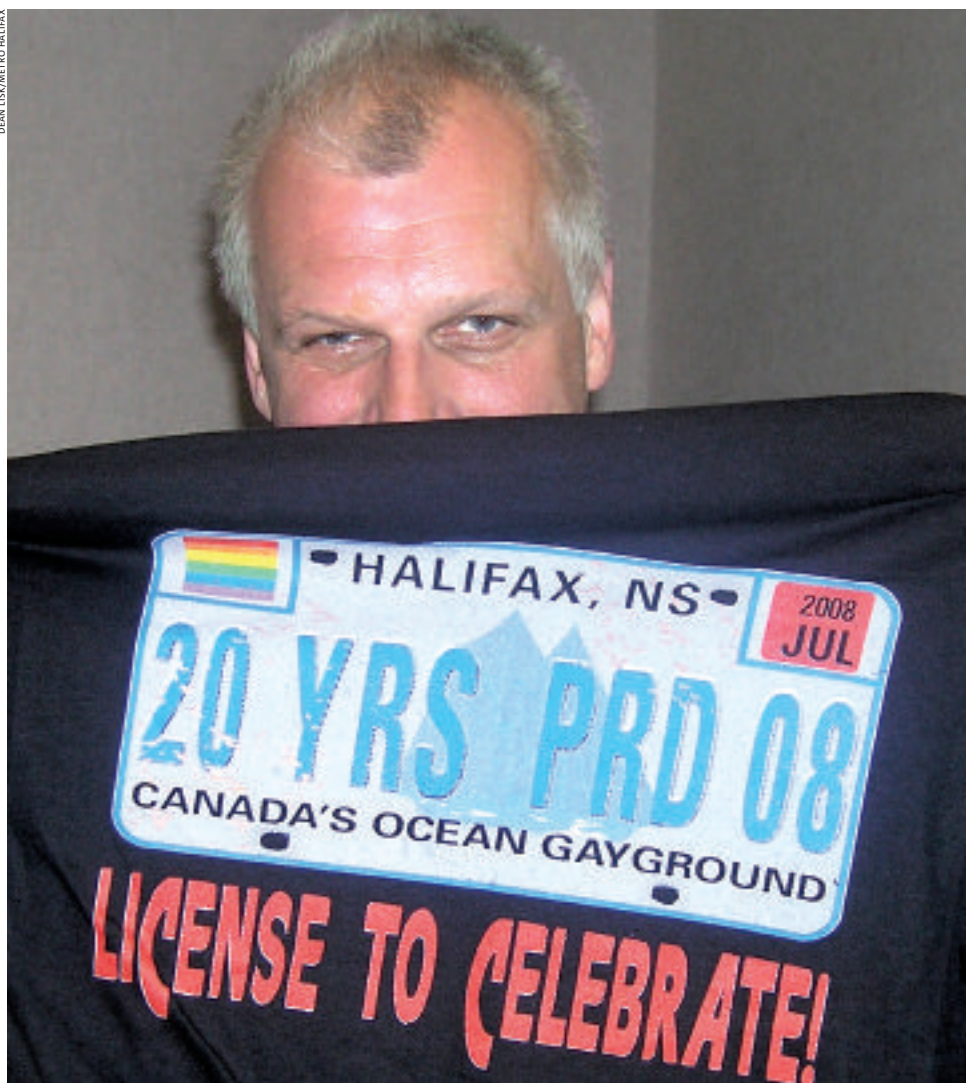
FRIDAY, JULY 25

- Float prep and BBQ at The Youth Project, noon.
- Time Out Lecture series at the Spring Garden Road library, noon.
- Halifax Pride's Songwriter's Ceilidh on the Garrison Grounds, 5 p.m.
- Reel Out Film Fest presents Another Gay Sequel: Gays Gone Wild at the Oxford Theatre, 8 p.m.
- AlFresco filmFesto presents Some Like It Hot at Tall Ships Quay, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 26

- Interfaith Service at Pride Tent, 11 a.m.
 - Pride Parade through downtown Halifax, starts 1:30 p.m.
 - Pride Festival with entertainment for all-ages, 3 p.m.
- For further information on Halifax Pride Week events, visit halifaxpride.com.

DEAN LISK/METRO HALIFAX



Hugo Dann holds up one of the Halifax Pride T-shirts that will be sold during this year's week-long celebration.

Brimming with Pride

DEAN LISK
dean.lisk@metronews.ca

The motto of this year's Halifax Pride Week offers a modern twist on a quaint Nova Scotia slogan — one instantly recognizable.

"20 YRS PRD 08" reads the licence plate declaring the province Canada's Ocean Gayground.

"It was obvious," said Hugo Dann, chair of Halifax Pride, who announced the details of this year's event yesterday. "It's a cheeky little joke, but it has been a really successful marketing tool. When we went to a conference in Ontario, people recognized it."

It is also a fitting theme for Pride as it marks 20 years since members of

"We are really covering the whole gambit of LGBT history on (Barrington Street)."

Hugo Dann

the local LGBT community took part in the city's first parade — some with paper bags on their heads so they wouldn't be recognized.

"Seventy-five very brave men and women — including Alexa McDonough — marching down Spring Garden Road at a time when the human rights act of Nova Scotia had not been amended and it was still legal to discriminate against homosexuals," said Dann.

He said this year's Pride is really about looking at

the past and present, a fact represented in the selection of this year's parade marshals; Leighann Wichman and Mike Sangster.

Wichman is the executive director of the Youth Project, while Sangster was among the original marchers in 1988.

"It wasn't easy in those days, there was a lot of fear and trepidations, and we thought we could be arrested," said Sangster. "It took a lot of courage for them to come out and march the first time, and I want to thank those coming out this year and marching now."

This year's parade, which takes place Saturday, July 26, will also feature a new route, one which will go down Barrington Street for the first time.

"Barrington Street is really important to our history," said Dann. "We will be marching past the Turret Club, we will be marching past the Roy Building, Green Lantern Building, and all of those have housed gay bars and been instrumental in the early years of our coming together as a community. "And, we are marching past Reflections and Venus Envy, so we are really covering the whole gambit of LGBT history on that street."

popular

Around 7,000 people are expected to take part in this year's Pride Parade on Saturday, July 26, with 30,000 more lining the downtown Halifax route.

Atlantic Jazz Festival wraps up

After running in Halifax for more than a week, the Atlantic Jazz Festival wraps up tomorrow with an anticipated performances by Sheila Jordan — considered by many to be the definition of a jazz musician. Here is a look at what else in taking place during the final two days of the 22nd annual festival:

TODAY

- Mainstage Tent: Salsa Picante and Latin Groove. 8 p.m. \$20 and \$30.
- Commons Room: Michael Pyeng Threadgill. 9 p.m. \$25 and \$32.
- Stayner's Wharf: Ensemble Remi-Jean LeBlanc. 11:30 p.m. \$10.
- 1313 Hollis: Harris Eisentadt Toronto Quartet. 9 p.m. \$15 and \$20.
- Cathedral Church of All Saints: Andre Downing's Arts and Letters Ensemble. 7 p.m. \$15 and \$20.
- Free Daytime Concerts: Mark Duggan, Scott 'n' the Rocks, Jazz Latin Orchestra, East Collective, and The Extremities. Noon. Free.

SATURDAY

- Mainstage Tent: Afro Musica and TONIC. 8 p.m. \$20 and \$30.
 - Stayner's Wharf: Scotian Improv and Composer Collective. 11:30 p.m. \$10.
 - Cathedral Church of All Saints: Sheila Jordan and Cameron Brown Duo. 7 p.m. \$15 and \$20.
 - Free Daytime Concerts: Chebucto Big Bands, Tuesday Night Big Band, Big Valley Swing Orchestra, and Creative Music Workshop Student Ensemble. Noon. Free.
- For more information on the musicians and venues, or to buy tickets, visit jazzeast.com.

Elton John tickets on sale today



GET YOURS QUICK Tickets are expected to go fast for Elton John's Sept. 26 and 27 shows at the Halifax Metro Centre. On sale at 9 a.m., tickets are selling for \$99.50 to \$149.50, with \$2 from each going to the Elton John AIDS Foundation. Visit ticketatlantic.com or call 451-1221

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Michael's Bar & GrillLaurie the Guy on Thursday and Sunday. 6100 Young St. **METRO**

Nova Scotia-based Wintersleep is among the bands performing in the inaugural Summersonic two-day music festival on Citadel Hill this Saturday and Sunday. The event will also feature City and Colour, The Weakerthans, Tokyo Police Club, In-Flight Safety, Stars, The Black Keys, Hey! Rosetta and others. Visit www.sonicconcerts.com.

clubs

ARGYLE BAR AND GRILL: Jazz nights on Monday. 1575 Argyle St.

BEARLY'S: Tony Smith and Soul Finesse on Friday. Al Tuck matinee on Saturday. Dave Goyetch on Saturday. Blues jam with Brad Conrad on Saturday. 1269 Barrington St.

BIG LEAGUES: The Beat of Halifax with Z103 on Friday. Amos on Saturday. 4 Forest Hills.

BOOMERS LOUNGE: Ten Mile House on Sunday. 1725 Grafton St.

BUBBLES MANSION: DJ Savory on Friday, 10 p.m. DJ Doug Phresh on Saturday, 10 p.m. 5287 Prince St.

CELTIC CORNER: Music on Friday and Saturday. 69 Alderney Dr.

CHEERS: Live music on Friday and Saturday. 1743 Grafton St.

COACH'S PUB: COACH'S PUB: DJ on Saturday. 552 Sackville Dr.

DAVE DOOLITTLES: Karaoke on Friday and Saturday. 90 Tacoma Dr.

THE DOME: DJ Doug Phresh on Friday. World dance party on Saturday. 1663 Argyle St.

DUTCHIE'S PUB: Jeff Bonang and friends on Sunday, 4 p.m. 3671 Dutch Village Rd.

THE FIFE AND DRUM: Sons of Maxwell on Friday and Saturday. 1919 Upper Water St.

FINBAR'S: The Macdonald Brothers on Friday and Saturday. Sunnyside Mall.

FOGGY GOGGLE: Mike Dalton and Donald Maclellon on Friday. 1667 Argyle St.

GINGER'S TAVERN: Apollo's Creed on Friday. Philip Shelley and Amelia Chester on Saturday. 1662 Barrington St.

GUS' PUB: Scribbler, Hot Panda, Murder Sounds, A/V on Friday. Halcyon on Saturday. Mike Evin on Sunday. 2605 Agricola St.

HALIFAX ALEHOUSE:

The Metric System on Monday. Kapyr on Wednesday.

THE HARBOURFRONT ROOM: Barnacle on Friday and Saturday. Casino Nova Scotia.

HELL'S KITCHEN: System Shit, Hellacaust, and Fistfight on Friday. 2037 Gottingen St.

JAMISON'S: Steve Dooks and Georges Hebert on Friday.

THE JOLLY MUG: Frank Lowe and SideKIXX Sunday. 15 Lakeland Rd.

LION'S HEAD TAVERN: Laurie the Guy on Friday and Saturday. 5833 Sullivan St.

LOWER DECK: Shameless, Wreckhouse, and Paul and Cory on Friday and Saturday. Historic Properties.

MARQUEE CLUB: Hey Rosetta! on Friday. Deerhoof on Saturday. 2037 Gottingen St.

MENZ BAR: DJ Needles (Richard Hill) and DJ Bear on Friday and Saturday. 2182 Gottingen St.

CONT. ON NEXT PAGE>>

Dykes, Divas square off on the diamond

DEAN LISK
dean.lisk@metronews.ca

It's a battle of the sexes, but with a twist.

"It is so fun to watch 25 drag queens running around like absolute fools trying to catch the ball in six-inch heels," said Rouge Fatale.

Once again, Fatale will be the commentator of the Dykes vs. Divas softball game on Halifax Common. The popular event, now in its 5th year, takes place this Sunday at 1 p.m.

"You see tiaras, you see jewellery, and you see a lot of things you probably shouldn't — but it is a good time," said Fatale at this week's 2008 Halifax Pride Week luncheon.

For the first three years, the Divas beat the Dykes, but their winning-streak ended last year with a



Rouge Fatale performs during the 2008 Halifax Pride Week launch at the Marriott Harbourfront.

Dykes victory.

Along with the game, there are a number of added on field shenanigans. One year, the Divas

set up a vanity table at second base and gave the lesbian team makeovers.

"They didn't like that, but we did," Fatale said.

Summer rushing in tomorrow

HaliwoodHeadlines



The hottest concert to hit Halifax this summer is finally here this weekend. Hopefully you've

checked out summer-rush.com for ticket information and general concert info, because Z103.5's Summer Rush 2008 is going to have a full house!

Saturday afternoon, international artists including Nelly, Lady Gaga, Jesse McCartney, C + C Music Factory, Cascada, Snap, Enur, Adictiv and the Jabbawock-

eez from America's Best Dance Crew will be here. They'll be joined by some of the hottest Canadian artists, like Elise Estrada, Kreesha Turner and Nova Scotia's own superstars Classified and Chad Hatcher. They'll all be jammin' at Alderney Landing, on the Dartmouth waterfront, for thousands of fans.

The show kicks off at 4:00 pm and some of Halifax's hottest DJs will keep the fans dancing between acts. It's the second annual Summer Rush concert and the first time on the bill for Classified and Chad Hatcher. They'll be on our morning show this morning, chatting exclusively about their first Summer Rush experience.

Hot on the heels of Sum-

mer Rush, the Evolve Music and Awareness Festival is happening in Antigonish next weekend. This year's lineup is huge and super diverse. DJs will be spinning everything from rock, jazz, funk and hip-hop to world music and electronica. The weekend-long music festival is sure to bring in fans from all over Canada. Check out evolvefestival.com for more info.

The beginning of August doesn't mean the end of Halifax's summer entertainment. I fell in love with a DJ ... and you'll have the chance to as well. Stay tuned for another big event announcement coming very soon!

Hear Nikki Balch on the Z103.5 Morning Show with Jeff, Nikki and Shane, weekdays from 5:30-10 a.m.

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FREE

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Presented by Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth & Alderney Landing

For more information please call 461-8401

24 weekend

The Seahorse

Language Arts, TFC and The Aaron Green Trio on Friday. Blown Gasket Orchestra and Park Falls on Saturday. Music Nova Scotia open mic with Alert the Medic on Monday. 1659 Argyle St. **METRO**

clubs

<<CONT. FROM LAST PAGE

MONTES: The Persuaders on Friday. Gary Hunt Memorial Jam Session on Sat-

urday. 245 Waverley Rd.

MY SON'S PLACE: Open mic on Sunday. 223 Wyse Rd.

NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB: Lukey's Boat on Saturday.

Bernard Sharpe on Sunday. 40 Wright Ave.

OAKMOUNT STATION: Pros vs. Joes karaoke on Saturday. 1717 Bedford Hwy.

O'CARROLL'S: The Crew on Friday and Saturday. Lisa MacDougal on Sunday through Thursday. 1860 Upper Water St.

OLD TRIANGLE: Kitchen Party on Friday and Saturday. Tristan & Andrew and Reel East matinees on Saturday. 5136 Prince St.

OUR FRIEND'S PUB: Kitchen parties on Monday. 19 Norm Newman Dr.

THE PALACE NIGHTCLUB: DJ Smooth Steve on Friday. DJ Fierce on Saturday. 1721 Brunswick St.

PARKSIDE PUB: Sean Bates and Running on Empty on Friday and Saturday. 14 Highfield Park Dr.

PASSAGE ALE HOUSE: 2nd Plan Band on Saturday. Eastern Passage.

THE PAVILLION: Steady Your Eyes, Children Of Eve, and Who Killed The Pageant Queen on Wednesday. Halifax Common.

PEDDLER'S PUB: DJ Mathe-matrix on Friday. Granville



Nelly will be the final act at the Summer Rush concert at Alderney Landing on Saturday. Also performing are Classified, Jesse McCartney, Cascada, Kreesha Turner and many others. Visit www.ticketpro.ca



Remnants, a photography exhibit featuring work by Sandy Caines, is on display at Viewpoint Gallery on Barrington Street.

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THE RED FOX: Joyride on Friday and Saturday. Bay-ers Road Village.

THE RED STAG: Bob Lambert musical comedy on Saturday. 1496 Lower Water St.

REFLECTIONS: Max Graham on Friday. DJ Hed-Fones on Saturday. Pride launch night on Sunday. 5184 Sackville St.

RODEO LOUNGE: Ryan Cook matinee on Friday. Ground Star on Friday and Saturday. 121 Ilsley Ave.

THE SHORE CLUB: Sam Moon and Ritchie Oakley on Saturday. 250 Shore Club Rd.

THE SPLIT CROW: Clam Chowder on Friday and Saturday. 1855 Granville St.

STAYNER'S WHARF: Doug Mallory featuring Chris Mitchell and the Ensemble Remi-Jean LeBlanc on Friday. Yo! Jazz, Ross Anderson Quartet and SICC on Saturday. Jeff Goodspeed and friends on Sunday. 5075 George St.

TRIBECA: Famous Players

on Friday. DJ Double A on Saturday. 1588 Granville St.

WINSTON'S: DJ Delta Don on Friday. Frayed Knot on Saturday. 278 Lacewood Dr.

galleries

ANNA LEONOWEN'S: Various artists on display. 5163 Duke St.

ARGYLE FINE ART: Vinylview, works using vinyl records by various artists. Through Aug. 4.

ART-PORT GALLERY: Works by 12 local artists. Robert Stanfield International Airport.

CONT. ON NEXT PAGE>>

Second GalleryWorks by various artists. 6301 Quinpool Rd. **METRO**weekend **25****galleries**

<<CONT. FROM LAST PAGE

CORRIDOR GALLERY: Portraits And The Sea. 1113 Marginal Rd.**CRAIG GALLERY:** Works by Wilma Butts. Through July 27. Alderney Landing.**DALHOUSIE ART GALLERY:** Exalted Beings: Animal Relationships. Aug. 22 through Oct. 5. 6101 University Ave.**FRED GALLERY:** Lynda Shalagan's Fragile Beauties. Through July 20. 2606 Agricola St.**HYDROSTONE GALLERY:** Works by various artists. 5519 Young St.**GALLERY PAGE AND****STRANGE:** Works by various artist. Through summer. Granville Square.**THE KYBER:** Works by various artists. 1588 Barington St.**MOUNT ST. VINCENT GALLERY:** Works by Kyla

Mallett. Through Aug. 10. 166 Bedford Hwy.

PAINTER'S PALETTE: Works by local painters. Dresden Row Market.**THE PEDWAY PICTURE GALLERY:** Showing The Artists Of Creative Spirit

East. Alderney Landing, Dartmouth.

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY: Duet/Trio/Quartet by Andre Forster. 5865 Gorsebrook Ave.**CONT. ON NEXT PAGE>>**

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galleries

<<CONT. FROM LAST PAGE

SEEDS GALLERY: Works by various artists. 1892 Hollis St.

STUDIO 21: Contemporary art by various artists. Through summer. 1223 Lower Water St.

VIEWPOINT GALLERY: Remnants, works by Sandy Caines. Through Aug. 3. 1272 Barrington St.

ZWICKER'S GALLERY: Works by various regional artists. 5415 Doyle St.

DISCOVERY CENTRE: 100 Years: A Countdown to Life. Through September. 1593 Barrington St.

MARITIME MUSEUM OF THE ATLANTIC: Halifax vs. Louisbourg: The Final Siege. Through Sept. 1675 Lower Water St.

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY: Green Legacy and Monarchs. Through Sept. 28. 1747 Summer St.

PIER 21: Various exhibits. 1055 Marginal Rd.

CONT. ON NEXT PAGE>>



Darren Arsenault will be the guest artists at the Monday Night Jazz series at the Economy Shoe Shop.



Matthew Barber and the Union Dues headline a show at The Seahorse this Sunday at 8:30 p.m. It will also feature The Missing City Startlight. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the door.

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theatre

<<CONT. FROM LAST PAGE

GRAFTON ST. DINNER THEATRE: Mairi's Best Friend's Wedding. Through Oct. 5. Call 425-1961 for reservations.

HALIFAX FEAST DINNER THEATRE: Cape Breton Idle III. Through November. 1505 Barrington St. Call 420-1840.

SHAKESPEARE BY THE SEA: A Midsummer Night's Dream and Cinderella. Through

August. \$15 suggested. Point Pleasant Park. Visit www.shakespearebythesea.ca or call 422-0295.

QUORUM THEATRE: Bright Midnight And Other Precautions. July 22 through 26. 8 p.m. The Space. 2353 Agricola St. \$5 and \$10. Call 422-6011 ext. 102.

events

ALDERNEY LANDING THEATRE: Mother Goose Festival on July 19. www.alderneylanding.com

FROM BELLA ROSE ARTS CENTRE: Drum! Sept. 12 through Oct. 12. Visit www.bellaroseartscentre.com.

CASINO NOVA SCOTIA: July Black on Aug. 1. For tickets call 451-1221.

DALHOUSIE ARTS CENTRE: Halifax Summer Opera Workshop presents The Consul on July 25, 28, 31 and Aug. 2. Call 494-3820. 6101 University Ave.

SACKVILLE KINSMEN PARK: Family concert featuring Midlife Crisis. 2 p.m.

SAINT PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH: The Maryland State Boy's Choir on Saturday, 7 p.m. Grand Parade.

YUK YUK'S: Jeff McEnery on Friday and Saturday. For information and tickets, call 429-9857. Westin Nova Scotia.

contribute

To have your listings appear here, e-mail us at halifaxlistings@metronews.ca.



Cape Breton-born Grammy-winner Gordie Sampson will play at the Carleton Restaurant on Monday and Tuesday.



The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is currently exhibiting a portion of its folk art collection, which numbers more than 700 pieces. The show is on display through the fall.



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Tip of the day: Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind. – Dr. Seuss

U.S. funnyman Andy Dick has been released from jail following his arrest on Wednesday on suspicion of drug possession and sexual battery. The 42-year-old comic posted \$5,000 bail following his arrest in Murieta, California, after onlookers reported his inappropriate behaviour. **IMDB.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Parker denies mole removal

SPOTTED Sarah Jessica Parker has denied she has gone under the knife to remove a beauty spot from her face — insisting she has not had plastic surgery of any kind, **imdb.com** reports.

The Sex And The City star was photographed apparently without her signature facial feature — a mole on her chin — as she stepped out for a baseball game at Yankee Stadium in New York City on Tuesday.

Pictures of the actress clearly show that the previously noticeable blemish has been replaced by a tiny mark.

But 43-year-old Parker is adamant that she has not undergone surgery, with her representative

saying, "Nothing has been removed."

Meanwhile, Parker has been hailed this year's unexpected crush by a U.S. men's magazine bidding to make up with the actress after calling her the unsexiest woman alive.

The 43-year-old Sex and the City star was outraged last year when men's publication Maxim bestowed her with the unsexy honour, insisting the insult was "brutal."

And Parker's outspoken opposition to the title seems to have worked. The actress will receive her award in the August issue of the magazine.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Klum's legs insured for \$2.2 million

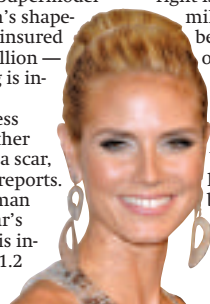
INSURANCE Supermodel Heidi Klum's shape-pins are insured for \$2.2 million — but one leg is insured for \$200,000 less than the other because of a scar, **imdb.com** reports.

The German catwalk star's right limb is insured for \$1.2 million — but her

right is only insured for \$1 million (GBP500,000) because of the mark on her knee.

She tells British newspaper The Sun, "They are different values because I have this little scar. I had to be examined in London. A guy came and inspected my leg."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Cruz hounded by press

ACTRESS Actress Penelope Cruz fears for her life every time she steps out in her native Spain because aggressive cameramen follow her every move, **imdb.com** reports.

She says, "In Spain these TV shows are on for maybe 17 hours a day. They are very cheap to make because they just have somebody running after people in the street with a camera, provoking them, insulting them."

"They are waiting for more and more drama ... Unless they have a dead body in front of them, it's not enough. I mean, it is just beyond crazy and completely unacceptable."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



celebrity brief

McConaughey a music mogul?

COMPANY Actor Matthew McConaughey is turning his attentions to a new project — he has set up his own record company, **imdb.com** reports.

The A Time To Kill star has already signed his first act — a reggae singer — and is approaching other major music labels for backing. A source tells New York gossip column PageSix, "His first artist is a reggae guy called Mishka. The album will be called Above the Bones and the first single is Here Comes Da Train."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Beckhams love L.A. living

AMERICA It was only a year ago that Posh and Becks stormed our shores and settled in Los Angeles. Now David Beckham has blogged on his site just how much he and his family love their new life, **intouchweekly.com** reports.

"It seems like only a few weeks ago I arrived in Los Angeles with my family ready for the next chapter in our lives," he wrote. "A year later and we feel so settled

here, everyone loves California and everyone has made us feel so welcome. I can't imagine being anywhere else in the world right now."

Becks also thanked the people who made their move so pleasant. "My [LA Galaxy] teammates have been great to me and we have a brilliant set of fans. I'm thankful to them and to the people of Los Angeles for making my family and I so welcome since we arrived here."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



celebrity brief

Jolie inundated with flowers

WELL WISHES The day after Angelina Jolie's twins were born, she received another special delivery: Flowers from each of her children, **usmagazine.com** reports.

"It was a blessed sight," one hospital staffer says. In addition to the blooms brought by her kids, the actress received so many bouquets that hospital staffers had to store them in her security guards' rooms.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Paris rejected by top soccer star

MOVIES Paris Hilton's attempts to flirt with soccer star Cristiano Ronaldo ended in disaster as the star's romantic advances were rejected, according to reports, **imdb.com** reports.

A source tells British newspaper the Daily Mirror, "Paris saw Ronaldo and immediately slithered past the dozens of women trying to get his attention. Then she climbed over one of his mates and planted herself next to him but he wasn't interested."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Blair a common gay crush

ROLES Hollywood actress Selma Blair is regularly propositioned by lesbians because of her three on-screen girl-on-girl love scenes, **imdb.com**.

The 36-year-old, who split from her husband Ahmet Zappa in 2006, gained a massive gay following after locking lips with Sarah Michelle Gellar in 1999's Cruel Intentions. She subsequently went on to film lesbian kissing scenes for last year's Feast of Love and for upcoming movie Driving Lessons. And Blair is convinced that many women often confuse her for a real life lesbian, according to the New York Daily News.

She says, "I have done three girl-on-girl kisses on-screen. And, yet, I've never done any (lesbian experimentation) in my real life."

"When lesbian friends tell me they're in love with me after our friendship has been cemented, it always shocks me."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Dunst seen on Hirsch hunt

ROMANCE Watch out, Emile Hirsch — Kirsten Dunst has her eye on you, **pagesix.com** reports.

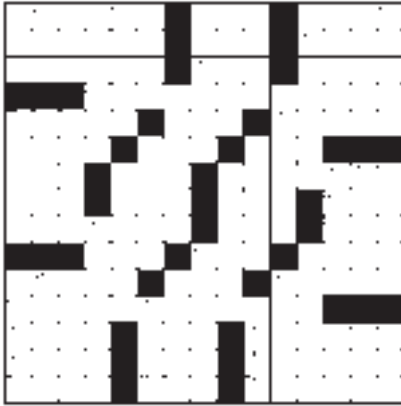
A spy saw the rehabbed starlet smoking cigarettes outside the Bowery Hotel and told us, "Kirsten was there just to see Emile."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hollywood funnyman Will Ferrell and soccer star David Beckham have become the proud owners of a racehorse. The stars were awarded part-ownership of the potential champion as part of a gift bag handed out at the Espy Sports Awards in Los Angeles on Wednesday. **IMDB**



Take Five



Crossword across

- 1 Rocky's last name
- 7 Badges
- 10 Door frame
- 14 Meadow complaints
- 15 Cole who was "King"
- 16 Scent
- 17 Tours of duty
- 18 Roswell crasher
- 19 Kind of moth
- 20 Fast (hyph.)
- 23 Mood
- 26 Laugh syllable
- 27 Catchers' gloves
- 28 Hertz competitor
- 29 Lay low
- 30 Born
- 31 Grayish-brown
- 32 Util. bill
- 33 Notebooks
- 37 Ms. MacGraw
- 38 House wing
- 39 Kiel conjunction
- 40 Bad, for Yves
- 41 Jawless fish
- 43 Lawyer's thing
- 44 Common oath (2 wds.)
- 45 Ginza money
- 46 Orchestra leader — Baxter
- 47 Cattle stall
- 48 Enticements
- 51 Tijuana aunt
- 52 Date palm locale
- 53 Elegant pooches (2 wds.)
- 56 Fodder storage
- 57 Subject for Keats
- 58 Revised
- 62 Press
- 63 Joey or Kiki
- 64 Call it a night
- 65 Many August people
- 66 Electric swimmer
- 67 Stage productions

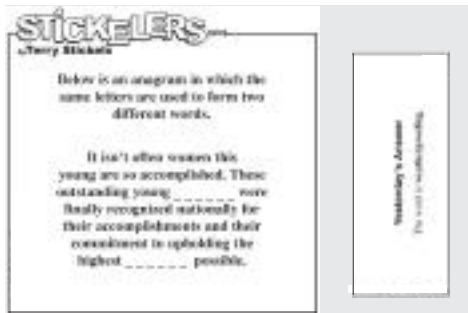
Crossword down

- 1 Toy gun ammo
- 2 High, in music
- 3 Luau welcome
- 4 Twangy instruments
- 5 Riverbank dweller
- 6 Kind of prof.
- 7 Habituated
- 8 "Platoon" actor
- 9 Grind to a halt
- 10 Cajoled along
- 11 Grown-up
- 12 "Haystacks" painter
- 13 Wire nails
- 21 Quaker State burg
- 22 Corrects texts
- 23 Of deep ocean depths
- 24 Tonsil neighbor
- 25 One drop, roughly
- 29 Menelaus' wife
- 30 Softball teams
- 32 — of Avila
- 33 Chest of drawers
- 34 Kuwaiti leaders
- 35 Half diameters
- 36 Litterbugs
- 42 Boas
- 46 A Barrymore
- 47 Bungalow
- 48 Mr. Rathbone
- 49 Ignited
- 50 Home with a dome
- 51 Playing card
- 52 More peculiar
- 54 Renoir model
- 55 Brain, maybe
- 59 "A Christmas Carol" boy
- 60 Distinct period
- 61 — Plaines

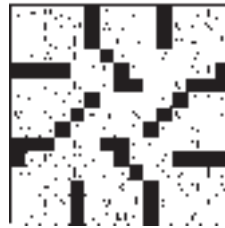
950,000
Metro readers do it daily!



SOURCE: NADbank 2007, read yesterday;
BASE: Montreal CMA, Ottawa-Gatineau CMA,
Toronto CMA, Vancouver CMA



previous day's answer



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Keep your side of a bargain or lose a friend. An arrogant person's nervousness will interfere. Too much preparation causes turmoil.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21

Someone can be hurt on a dangerous journey. You'll be punished if you are naughty. Don't worry; life won't pass you by.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21

Don't shed tears if your feelings are hurt. Love talk will be about a broken heart. A rational individual lacks a grasp of reality.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22

A leader wants to be honest. A group is forced to deal with diverted funds. A fragile person is stronger than you think.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23

A splinter group will decline to retaliate. A good-looking guy has a fright. Watch out for drivers using their phones.

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22

Learn something faster with a companion. A well-meaning person makes problems. A triumph leads to an assessment.

LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23

Be attentive to the realization of your destiny. Someone gets snubbed due to lack of popularity. Pay attention to simplicity.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22

Something unusual causes an allergy. A traitor wants something for free. A crime of passion causes a break down.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

A man's stupid question means a lot. A mischievous person presents a challenge. Release your passion with the light of love.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20

Calm descends among co-workers. An ailing person needs a stern lecture. You can economize by using a critical eye.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18

A champion eases a money problem. A lackadaisical attitude can be fixed. A rebel is distressed by a remarkable dream.

PISCES

FEB 19-MAR 20

Spend some time with cold-hearted people. Tell the truth and cause confusion. Someone argues about ridiculous things.

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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare.

CONDITIONS APPLY

1 866 967 5402

This day in history

JULY 18, 64 A.D.: A fire begins to burn in the merchant area of Rome and soon burns completely out of control while Emperor Nero reportedly plays his lyre and sings while watching the blaze from a safe distance.

JULY 18, 1925: Adolf Hitler publishes his personal manifesto Mein Kampf.

JULY 18, 1984: In a McDonald's fast-food restaurant, James Oliver Huberty opens fire, killing 21 people and injuring 19 others before being shot dead by police.

JULY 18, 1992: A The ten victims of the La Cantuta massacre disappeared from their university in Lima.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sudoku

INSTRUCTIONS:

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:

Under 13 Genius
13-17 Scholar
17-21 Smart

previous day's answer

7	8	4	2	9	3	6	5	1
3	1	5	7	8	6	9	4	2
6	9	2	4	5	1	8	3	7
5	4	6	3	1	2	7	8	9
2	7	9	6	4	8	3	1	5
1	3	8	9	7	5	2	6	4
8	2	1	5	3	7	4	9	6
4	5	7	8	6	9	1	2	3
9	6	3	1	2	4	5	7	8

21-25 Not bad
25+ Keep practicing

Halifax weather

Afternoon



Partly cloudy.
27°

Tonight



Rain.
17°

Saturday



Showers.
23° / 13°

Sunday



Mainly sunny.
24° / 16°

The Weather Network
Monday

Variable.
23° / 16°

Temperature
Normals
High: 23°
Low: 13.8°

Records
High: 31.2°/1990
Low: 9.4°/1946

Sunrise: 5:46 a.m.
Sunset: 8:53 p.m.
Moonset: 5:43 a.m.
Moonrise: 9:21 p.m.

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Limited model shown

